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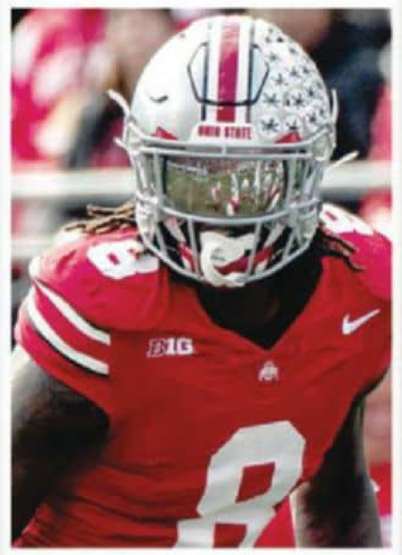
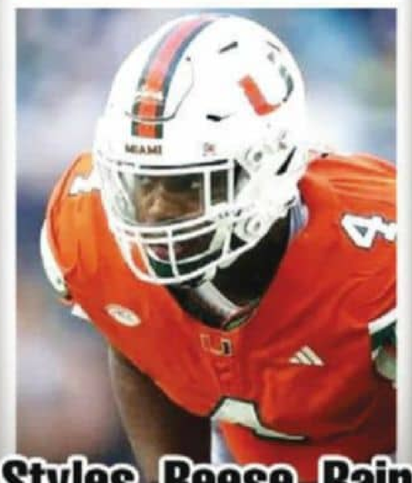
Draft Digest

MENDOZA THE MAN

Can Heisman winner, national champion become next franchise QB?

HIGH 'D'MAND





Styles, Reese, Bain among top defenders

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Will GMs mimic Seattle's 'safe' strategy?

It happens every single year like clockwork.

A team, in this case the Seattle Seahawks, wins the Super Bowl, and the other 31 teams across the NFL try to analyze their roster and, along with that, all of the moves they have made that allowed them to reach the highest level of success.

So, when the rest of the league pops the hood to see what made the Seahawks engine go, what are some of the things they are going to notice and perhaps try to replicate this off-season?

Before we even get to the roster itself it should be mentioned that more than a few franchises noticed the success that second-year head coach Mike Macdonald had as a play-caller on the defensive side of the ball. It is not a coincidence that Jesse Minter, who, like Macdonald, previously had spent time with both the Baltimore Ravens and University of Michigan, was hired to become the first new head man in Baltimore in a long time following the firing of 18-year coach John Harbaugh. Macdonald's showing couldn't have hurt Jeff Hafley's ability to land the top job in Miami, either.

Interestingly, one of the first things Macdonald and the Seahawks did this year when building their Super Bowl squad was draft hybrid defender Nick Emmanwori early in the second round — and then promptly build the entire defense around him.

Yep, you read that correctly.

A big part of the reason why the Seahawks defense was so stellar this year is that Macdonald recognized the value in having a unique player such as Emmanwori. He's essentially the Superman of the Seahawks defense except instead of superhuman strength or x-ray vision, Emmanwori is a de facto "Sam" linebacker capable of taking on offensive linemen and plugging gaps in the run game while simultaneously being able to cover slot wide receivers when isolated in man coverage — as competently as defensive backs typically much smaller than him.

The typically uncorrelated combo allowed the Seahawks to play more nickel defense (five or more defensive backs) than any team in the NFL. It worked, as they were a defensive-led team that was among the league leaders in most categories, including lack of explosive plays (runs of 12 yards or more, or completions for 16 yards or more) allowed. Being able to stop the run while in what is considered an undersized defense like nickel because of the truly special skill set of Emmanwori was a big factor.

Interestingly, the Seahawks aren't the first team to utilize a The Ravens, under then defensive coordinator Macdonald, led the NFL in most defensive categories in 2023 with All-Pro Kyle Hamilton manning that same role in Macdonald's defense. The difference is that, unlike Hamilton in Baltimore, the Seahawks specifically drafted Emmanwori for that spot.

How many NFL teams will look for their Emmanwori in this year's NFL Draft?

Good luck to them, as guys who stand 6-3, weigh 220 pounds, and run a 40-yard dash faster than 4.4 seconds are about as common as a solar eclipse. And yet teams will still try to find someone capable of filling that dual role.

The other reason the Seahawks defense was able to play with two deep safeties and yet still stop the run was one of the best groups of defensive tackles in the NFL. Veteran Leonard Williams and last phy, typically took on three or more blockers on all inside run plays and still came out on top.

If a team has defensive linemen that can "two-gap" by controlling both sides of a blocker or at least play a "gap and a half" by controlling not only the gap they line up in but squeezing an offensive lineman into the adjacent gap they can properly defend an opponent's run game without having to insert an extra defender, typically a safety, into the run fit.

That's a huge differentiator as it allows defensive coordinators such as Macdonald to change up coverage looks post-snap without being limited by having to have one of the safeties involved in the run defense. With more and more teams playing two deep safeties there will likely be a premium placed on run-stuffing defensive tackles in this year's draft.

Despite the fact that three straight Super Bowl champions have been led by their defense, that's not the only takeaway teams will steal from the Seahawks.

There's no doubt teams took note of the incredible Offensive Player of the Year season produced by Seattle wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba. The concern for JSN coming out of college, and other recent receivers like him, was whether or not he was only a "slot" wide receiver and thus not capable of playing outside at all like some of the traditional star receivers the league has seen in recent years.

Instead, versatile receivers who can play both inside and outside, such as Justin Jefferson, Cooper Kupp, JSN, etc., have been the ones putting up monster seasons.

Look for those types of receivers to get drafted higher than they would have otherwise in recent years. And when it happens you can

DRAFT FACTS & FIGURES

WHAT:
91st NFL Entry Draft

WHEN:
Round 1, Thursday, April 23, 8 p.m.
Rounds 2-3, Friday, April 24, 7 p.m.
Rounds 4-7, Saturday, April 25, Noon

WHERE:
Pittsburgh, Pa.

TELEVISION:
NFL Network, ABC, ESPN, ESPN Deportes

FORMAT:
Each team has 8 minutes to make its selection in Round 1; seven minutes in Round 2; five minutes in Rounds 3-6; four minutes in Round 7

TRAVIS HUNTER

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COVER PHOTO

Mark J. Rebilas/Imagn Images

2026 DRAFT PICKS BY TEAM

TEAM	TOTAL	TOP 100	1ST RD
Pittsburgh Steelers	12	5	1
Miami Dolphins	11	7	2
Jacksonville Jaguars	11	4	0
Baltimore Ravens	11	3	1
New England Patriots	11	3	1
Las Vegas Raiders	10	3	1
Cleveland Browns	9	4	2
Kansas City Chiefs	9	4	2
New York Jets	9	4	2
Philadelphia Eagles	9	4	1
Minnesota Vikings	9	4	1
Tennessee Titans	9	3	1
Detroit Lions	9	2	1
Houston Texans	8	4	1
Dallas Cowboys	8	3	2
New Orleans Saints	8	3	1
Cincinnati Bengals	8	3	1
Chicago Bears	7	4	1
Carolina Panthers	7	3	1
Los Angeles Rams	7	3	1
Arizona Cardinals	7	3	1
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	7	3	1
New York Giants	7	2	1
Buffalo Bills	7	2	1
Green Bay Packers	7	2	0
Indianapolis Colts	7	2	0
Denver Broncos	7	1	0
Washington Commanders	6	2	1
San Francisco 49ers	6	2	1
Los Angeles Chargers	5	3	1
Atlanta Falcons	5	2	0

NOTABLE TRADES INVOLVING 2026 PICKS

ROUND 1

No. 13: L.A. Rams from Atlanta as part of a deal for the Falcons to select 26th in 2025 (EDGE James Pearce Jr.)
No. 16: N.Y. Jets from Indianapolis as part of a deal for the Colts to acquire CB Sauce Gardner.
No. 20: Dallas from Green Bay as part of a deal for the Packers to acquire EDGE Micah Parsons.
No. 24: Cleveland from Jacksonville as part of a deal for the Jaguars to select 2nd in 2025 (CB Travis Hunter).
No. 29: Kansas City from L.A. Rams as part of a deal for Los Angeles to acquire CB Trent McDuffie.
No. 30: Miami from Denver as part of the a for the Broncos to acquire WR Jaylen Waddle.

ROUND 2

No. 38: Houston from Washington as part of a deal for the Commanders to acquire OT Laremy Tunsil.
No. 44: N.Y. Jets from Dallas as part of a deal for the Cowboys to acquire DT Quinnen Williams.
No. 60: Chicago from Buffalo as part of a deal for the Bills to acquire WR D.J. Moore.

ROUND 3

No. 68: Philadelphia from N.Y. Jets in exchange for LB Haason Reddick.
No. 69: Houston from N.Y. Giants as part of a deal for New York to select 25th in 2025 (QB Jaxson Dart).
No. 76: Pittsburgh from Dallas as part of a deal for the Cowboys to acquire WR George Pickens.
No. 81: Jacksonville from Detroit as part of a deal for the Lions to select 70th in 2025 (WR Isaac TeSlaa).
No. 87: Miami from Philadelphia in exchange for LB Jaelan Phillips.
No. 90: Miami from Houston as part of a deal for the Texans to select 116th in 2025 (RB Woody Marks).
No. 92: Dallas from San Francisco in exchange for DT Osa Odighizuwa
No. 94: Miami from Denver as part of a deal for the Broncos to acquire WR Jaylen Waddle.
No. 100 Jacksonville from Detroit as part of a deal for the Lions to select 70th in 2025 (TeSlaa).

ROUND 4

No. 106: Houston from Washington as part of a deal for the Commanders to acquire Tunsil.
No. 108: Denver from New Orleans as part of a deal for the Saints to acquire WR Devaughn Vele.
No. 111: Denver from Miami as part of a deal for the Broncos to acquire WR Jaylen Waddle.
No. 117: Las Vegas from Jacksonville from Minnesota. The Vikings traded this pick as part of a deal to acquire OT Cam Robinson from the Jaguars, who traded it as part of a deal for WR Jakobi Meyers.
No. 125: New England from Kansas City from Chicago. The Bears traded this pick in exchange for G Joe Thuney from the Chiefs, who traded this pick to the Patriots as part of a deal for Kansas City to select 85th in 2025 (CB Nohl Williams).
No. 128: Detroit from Houston as part of a deal for the Texans to acquire RB David Montgomery
No. 129: Chicago from L.A. Rams as part of a deal for Los Angeles to select 148th in 2025 (DT Ty Hamilton).
No. 130: Miami from Denver as part of a deal for the Broncos to acquire WR Jaylen Waddle.

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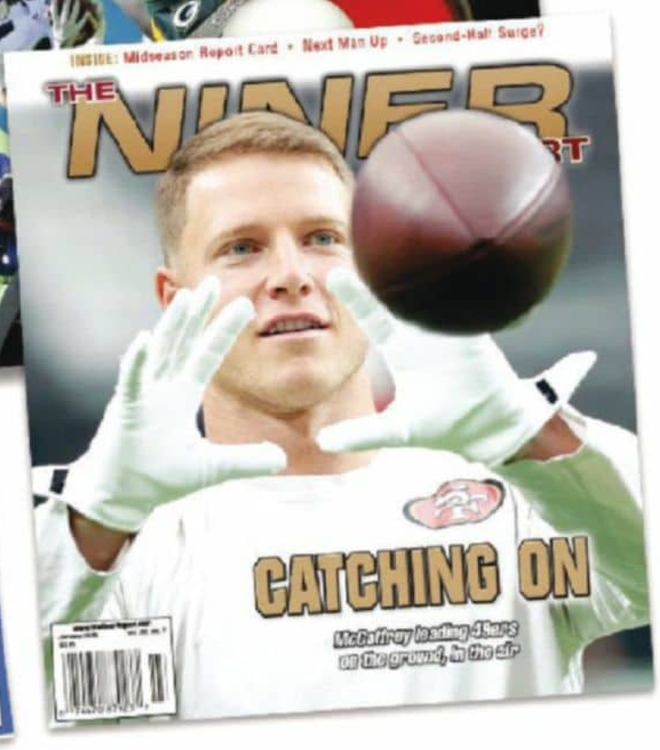
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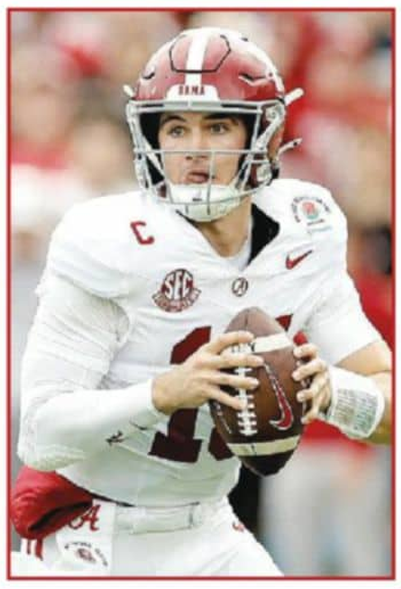
QUARTERBACKS

OVERVIEW

The 2025 quarterback class has one prize at the top, Fernando Mendoza, and then a whole lot of question marks. We don't have many high tape grades this year, but there are many players with the physical traits needed to become valuable passers — which could attract some first-round attention. They might just need some time to sit and learn.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10



No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Fernando Mendoza	Indiana	6-5	236	1st Round
2.	Ty Simpson	Alabama	6-1	211	3rd Round
3.	Garrett Nussmeier	LSU	6-1	203	4th Round
4.	Drew Allar	Penn State	6-5	228	4th Round
5.	Cade Klubnik	Clemson	6-2	207	4th Round
6.	Taylen Green	Arkansas	6-5	227	5th Round
7.	Sawyer Robertson	Baylor	6-3	216	5th Round
8.	Cole Payton	North Dakota State	6-2	232	5th Round
9.	Carson Beck	Miami	6-4	233	5th Round
10.	Luke Altmyer	Illinois	6-1	210	6th Round

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Fernando Mendoza
Indiana

It's hard to have a bigger rise than Mendoza did in 2025. After 20 games of experience with the Cal Golden Bears, he transferred to Indiana in the offseason and proceeded to lead one of the most improbable seasons in recent memory. Mendoza won the Heisman Trophy and then led Indiana to an undefeated championship run. The only thing left is for him to go No. 1 overall to Las Vegas. Mendoza has the size, smarts, and arm talent of a long-term starter, and there's no doubt he's

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

• **Fernando Mendoza** is far and away the top quarterback in this class, and it seems like the consensus is settling on Alabama's **Ty Simpson** as QB2. The question is how high he gets drafted. The second QB is usually a first-round pick, but Simpson's only 15 college starts show some pretty inconsistent tape with average tools. Still, there are enough good performances from early in the season that teams will consider him on Day 1.

• LSU's **Garrett Nussmeier** and Penn State's **Drew Allar** are the next group of passers, and they are polar opposites of each other. Nussmeier is the son of an NFL offensive coordinator who wins with smarts before and after the snap. Allar has great physical traits, but still struggles with the finer points of the game. Teams will have to decide whether a prospect's ceiling or floor is more important to them when evaluating Allar and Nussmeier.

• Speaking of elite traits, Arkansas' Taylen Green might have had the most impressive QB combine performance of all time. He broke QB records in the vertical and broad jumps, while posting the second-fastest 40-yard dash time. The issue is that he hasn't developed much despite four years of playing experience in college. Teams that want to swing for the fences late on Day 2 or on Day 3 should heavily consider Green.

• North Dakota State's **Cole Payton** is another name with a lot of upside. He has some impressive flashes of downfield throws on tape, and he's an excellent athlete. However, NDSU's offense was incredibly simple, and Payton had some rough performances down the stretch of the season.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Cam Ward, Round 1, Pick 1, Tennessee Titans

Picks by round: Round 1 (2), Round 2 (1), Round 3 (2), Round 4 (0), Round 5 (1), Round 6 (5), Round 7 (2)

Number drafted: 13

Average number drafted in the last five years: 11.4.

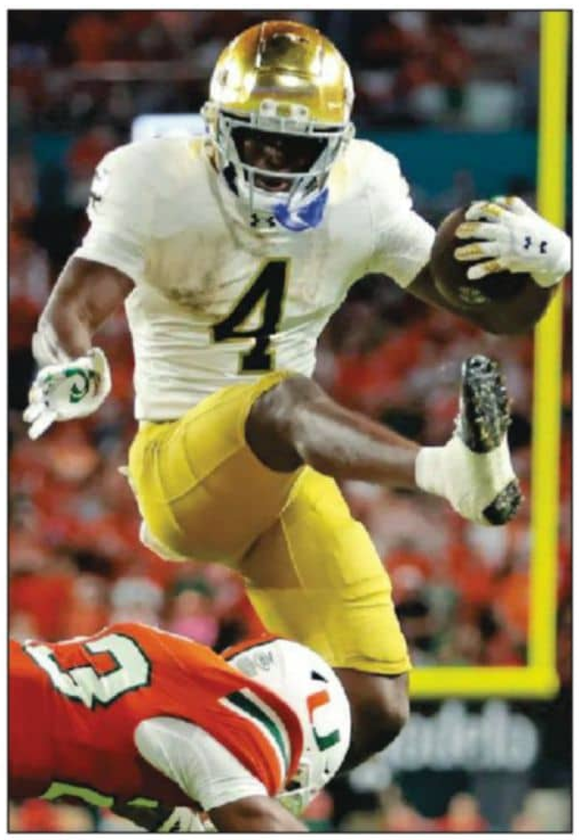
RUNNING BACKS

OVERVIEW

The 2025 running back class has one of the best players in the entire draft — Notre Dame's Jeremiyah Love — but lacks another true standout. There are many players who could fit various roles early, and a few with enough traits to develop into standout starters. Whether a team is looking for speed or power, this class has a little bit of both.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Jeremiyah Love	Notre Dame	6-0	212	1st Round
2.	Jonah Coleman	Washington	5-8	220	2nd Round
3.	Jadarian Price	Notre Dame	5-10	203	3rd Round
4.	Emmett Johnson	Nebraska	5-10	202	4th Round
5.	Nick Singleton	Penn State	6-0	219	4th Round
6.	Mike Washington Jr.	Arkansas	6-1	223	4th Round
7.	Kaytron Allen	Penn State	5-11	216	4th Round
8.	Jam Miller	Alabama	5-10	209	5th Round
9.	J'Mari Taylor	Virginia	5-9	199	5th Round
10.	Demond Claiborne	Wake Forest	5-9	188	5th Round



HEAD OF THE CLASS

Jeremiyah Love
Notre Dame

Love is as good as any running back prospect in recent memory. He was productive for multiple seasons, racking up 2,496 rushing yards and 35 touchdowns in the last two seasons. On tape, Love has the speed to break off huge runs, the balance to withstand contact, and the quickness to make defenders miss in space. He's even a good pass-catcher out of the backfield. There's really no weakness in Love's game. It's hard to imagine Love not landing

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

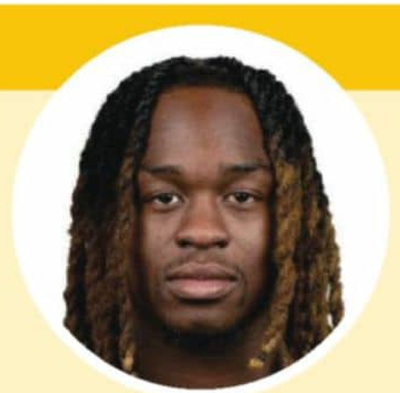
• With **Jeremiyah Love** running away with the RB1 spot, the battle for RB2 seems to be between Washington's **Jonah Coleman** and Notre Dame's **Jadarian Price**. We're leaning toward Coleman because of how consistent and well-rounded his game has become. He's got excellent vision, good contact balance, is an awesome pass protector, and can catch the ball out of the backfield. However, Price is bigger, and he's got a lot more speed and burst into open space. He has more upside, so don't be surprised if he's the second RB off the board.

• It was not a good season for the Penn State duo of **Kaytron Allen** and **Nick Singleton**. Allen did net his second straight 1,000-yard season, but it was pretty clear on tape he doesn't have the athletic ability of a three-down back. Singleton's production dropped a ton (1,106 yards in 2024 vs. 547 in 2025), and he suffered a foot injury at the Senior Bowl that held him out of the combine, an event he should've dominated.

• Nebraska's **Emmett Johnson** is one of the biggest risers in this year's class. He racked up an impressive 1,450 yards and 12 touchdowns this past season. However, his tape shows a player with average speed and quickness. He's also a bit of a scheme-limited prospect, grading out much better running behind gap/power blocking than zone.

• Arkansas' **Mike Washington Jr.,** and Wake Forest's **Demond Claiborne** are excellent options for teams looking to add a power and speed back, respectively. Washington has a rock-solid frame and is a better athlete than expected. Claiborne has impressive long speed with a ton of burst through the hole.

HISTORY LESSON



2025 Highest pick: Ashton Jeanty, Round 1, Pick 6, Las Vegas Raiders

Picks by round: Round 1 (2), Round 2 (3), Round 3 (1), Round 4 (6), Round 5 (3), Round 6 (4), Round 7 (6)

Number drafted: 25

Average number drafted in the last five years: 19.4

WIDE RECEIVERS

OVERVIEW

The idea that we might never see another "bad" wide receiver class again continues to be true. This group might not have a dominant blue-chip player, but it's packed to the gills with top-end talent, depth, and intriguing developmental options. It also has an excellent mix of play styles, with plenty of big-body and smaller-slot type options throughout all seven rounds.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

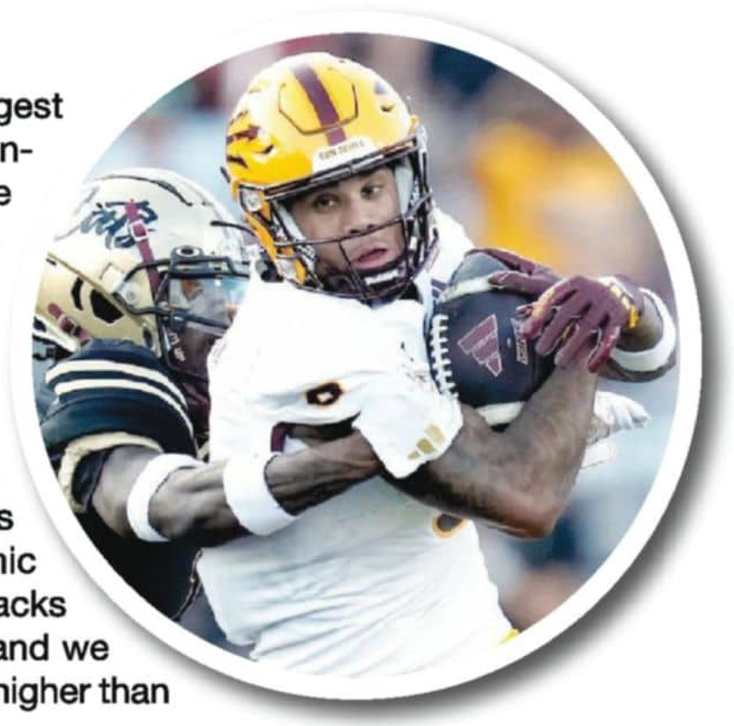
No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Carnell Tate	Ohio State	6-2	192	1st Round
2.	Jordyn Tyson	Arizona State	6-3	203	1st Round
3.	Makai Lemon	USC	5-11	192	2nd Round
4.	Denzel Boston	Washington	6-3	212	2nd Round
5.	K.C. Concepcion	Texas A&M	5-11	196	2nd Round
6.	Omar Cooper Jr.	Indiana	6-0	199	2nd Round
7.	Chris Bell	Louisville	6-1	222	2nd Round
8.	Elijah Sarratt	Indiana	6-2	210	3rd Round
9.	Germie Bernard	Alabama	6-1	206	3rd Round
10.	Malachi Fields	Notre Dame	6-4	218	3rd Round

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Carnell Tate
Ohio State

Ultimately, the WR1 comes down to preference, but we like Tate for his well-rounded game and polished route running. On a team with future star Jeremiah Smith, Tate produced 51 catches for 875 yards and nine touchdowns. He's a potent deep threat, regardless of his average 4.54-second 40-yard dash time. He has an elite ability to win contested catches, and he separates perfectly fine on tape. He's not as athletic as Jordyn Tyson, but more polished,

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK



• Arizona State's **Jordyn Tyson** might have one of the biggest draft ranges in this entire class. He's got enough talent to go inside the top 10, but he has battled injuries throughout his entire career. Tyson has missed time with an injury in four straight seasons, and that includes knee and clavicle surgeries. There's no denying how dynamic he can be when he's on the field, but it's been a struggle for him thus far.

• USC's **Makai Lemon** and Texas A&M's **K.C. Concepcion** are two players who might project better as slots, but couldn't be more different. Lemon is a polished route runner who catches everything he can get his hands on. Concepcion is a dynamic speed threat with great quickness to separate from defensive backs at will. Lemon is typically projected higher than Concepcion, and we obviously agree with that, but the Texas A&M product might go higher than consensus because he's got so much downfield ability.

• Any team looking for size will likely be interested in Washington's **Denzel Boston**. He caught a wild 76.9 percent of his contested targets in 2025, according to Pro Football Focus charting. That dominance, combined with his surprisingly smooth movement skills, makes him a prime candidate to develop into an all-around X-receiver who can lead a passing attack for 17 games.

• Receivers who just missed our list include Clemson's **Antonio Williams**, a solid slot option with good hands and route running; Tennessee's **Chris Brazzell**, a straight-line speedster with good ball tracking skills; and Georgia State's **Ted Hurst**, who performed well at the Senior Bowl and the combine.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Tetairoa McMillan, Round 1, Pick 8, Carolina Panthers

Picks by round: Round 1 (3), Round 2 (4), Round 3 (6), Round 4 (7), Round 5 (2), Round 6 (3), Round 7 (6)

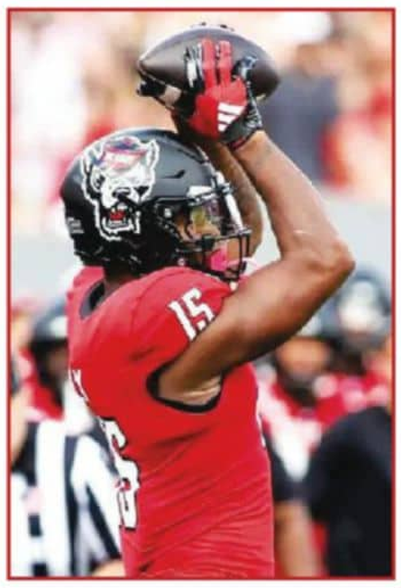
Number drafted: 31

Average number drafted in the last five years: 33.2

TIGHT ENDS

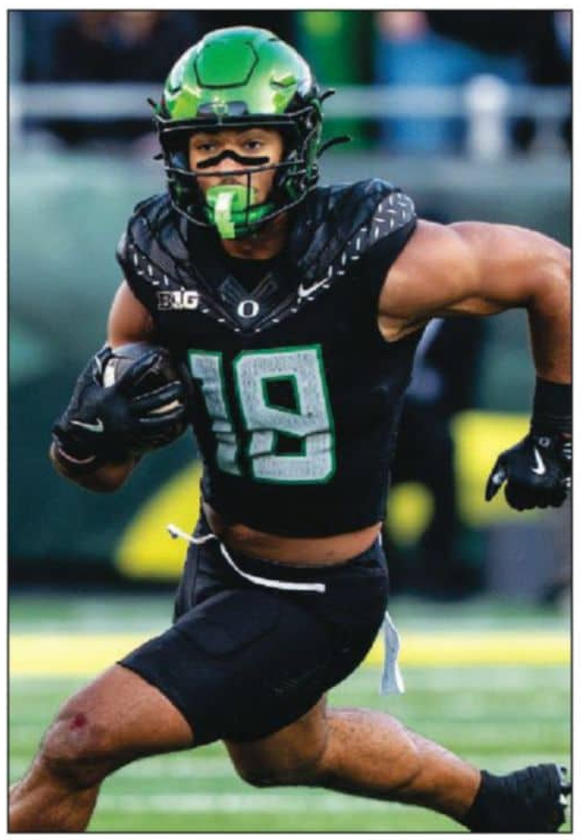
OVERVIEW

This year's tight end class is a step back from the one that saw Colston Loveland and Tyler Warren land inside the top-15 picks last year. However, Kenyon Sadiq is a solid top option, and there are a lot of good depth options beyond that. We prefer tight ends with some blocking chops, but there's plenty of receiving types worth an investment as well.



DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Kenyon Sadiq	Oregon	6-3	241	2nd Round
2.	Max Klare	Ohio State	6-4	246	3rd Round
3.	Oscar Delp	Georgia	6-4	245	3rd Round
4.	Sam Roush	Stanford	6-6	267	3rd Round
5.	Eli Stowers	Vanderbilt	6-3	239	3rd Round
6.	Justin Joly	North Carolina State	6-3	241	4th Round
7.	Dae'Quan Wright	Mississippi	6-3	246	4th Round
8.	Jack Endries	Texas	6-4	245	4th Round
9.	Eli Raridon	Notre Dame	6-6	245	4th Round
10.	Nate Boerkircher	Texas A&M	6-5	245	4th Round

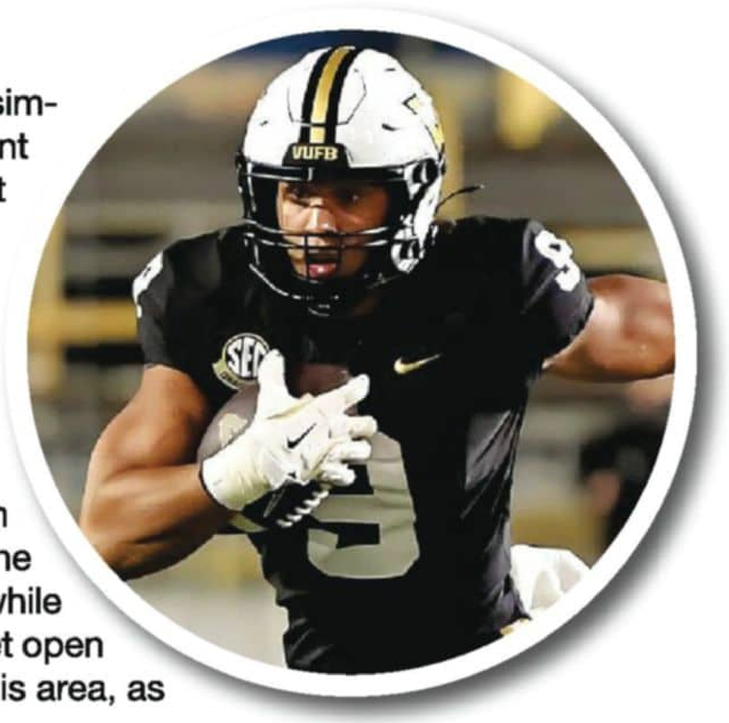


HEAD OF THE CLASS

Kenyon Sadiq
Oregon

Sadiq isn't quite as good as the top players from last year's tight end class, but he might actually have more upside as an athlete. Sadiq blew up the Combine, running a 4.39-second 40-yard dash with a 43.5-inch vertical jump. The two big questions will be whether he can develop as a route runner (he mostly wins on manufactured touches and vertical routes) and add some consistency in the running game. He was a better blocker in 2024 than in 2025,

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK



• Ohio State's **Max Klare** and Georgia's **Oscar Delp** fall into similar categories. Both players were underused relative to their talent in 2025. Still, both of them project favorably as tight ends that can contribute against the run and pass. Klare's blocking was much better in 2024 while he was at Purdue, and Delp played the entire 2025 season with a foot injury. It might take some time, but Delp and Klare are the right type of tight ends for the modern NFL.

• Stanford's **Sam Roush** and Mississippi's **Dae'Quan Wright** are two players higher on our board than most analysts. Both players have the size and blocking prowess to line up on the line of scrimmage and contribute in the running game. Additionally, while neither is a super dynamic athlete, both move well enough to get open at the NFL level. Roush's combine was particularly helpful in this area, as he tested well in every category except the 40-yard dash.

• Vanderbilt's **Eli Stowers** and N.C. State's **Justin Joly** are our two favorite receiving tight ends. Both are athletic and proven enough to believe their lack of run blocking won't completely sink them. Stowers is an impressive athlete on tape, and he broke the Combine record for the tight end vertical jump (45.5 inches).

• Baylor's **Michael Trigg** didn't quite make the cut despite being in most top 10s across the industry. Trigg's blocking ability is almost non-existent on tape, and he didn't break out until his fifth season in an offense that wasn't running a ton of NFL concepts. If a team needs a slot receiver, Trigg might be higher on its board.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Colston Loveland, Round 1, Pick 10, Chicago Bears

Picks by round: Round 1 (2), Round 2 (3), Round 3 (1), Round 4 (1), Round 5 (3), Round 6 (1), Round 7 (4)

Number drafted: 15

Average number drafted in the last five years: 14.0

OFFENSIVE TACKLES

OVERVIEW

This is a strange tackle class. It has a lot of "good" players with plenty of potential, but it seems to be lacking the one or two standout studs we've come to expect at the position in recent seasons. As always, there are also a few tackle vs. guard debates in this group. That will change from team to team, though, and everyone's board will look a little different.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

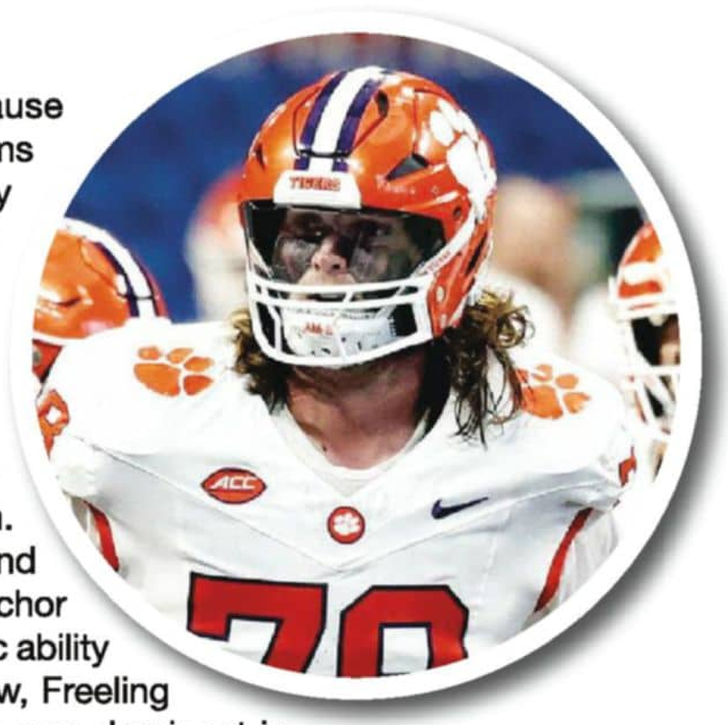
No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Francis Mauigoa	Miami	6-5	329	1st Round
2.	Spencer Fano	Utah	6-5	311	1st Round
3.	Monroe Freeling	Georgia	6-7	315	2nd Round
4.	Caleb Lomu	Utah	6-6	313	2nd Round
5.	Blake Miller	Clemson	6-6	317	2nd Round
6.	Max Iheanachor	Arizona State	6-5	321	2nd Round
7.	Kadyn Proctor	Alabama	6-6	352	2nd Round
8.	Jude Bowry	Boston College	6-5	341	3rd Round
9.	Caleb Tiernan	Northwestern	6-7	323	4th Round
10.	Markel Bell	Miami	6-9	346	4th Round

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Francis Mauigoa
Miami

We believe in Mauigoa's ability to play tackle at the next level, and he's got the most consistent tape in this class by a healthy margin. He's a dense, smooth, and consistent pass protector, allowing him to mirror and match edge rushers incredibly well. He's also got a nice mean streak to create running lanes. Some were concerned about his arm length, but he measured in at 33 inches, which is good enough to succeed at tackle. He's not quite an elite athlete, but

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK



• Utah's **Spencer Fano** is worth discussing in detail because many analysts will have him at guard. He had just 32-inch arms at the Combine, and his physical mentality would translate nicely to the inside, so it's a fair projection. He's an elite athlete, who needs some technical development for sure, but he's got enough traits to stick at tackle if given the chance. Whether it's tackle or guard, we're confident in him being a solid player.

• Every year, several tackles are ranked highly based on projection. This year, Georgia's **Monroe Freeling**, Utah's **Caleb Lomu**, and Arizona State's **Max Iheanachor** fit that description. In most mock drafts, these players appear in the first round, and it's because all three have NFL size and movement skills. Iheanachor didn't start playing football until college, but he has all the athletic ability in the world and has dominated the pre-draft circuit. Somehow, Freeling managed to fly under the radar at Georgia this season, but he was dominant in the team's final stretch. Lomu lacks a little strength, but his pass protection reps scream "NFL starter."

• Clemson's **Blake Miller** is starting to generate a little more buzz. That's good because he's been criminally underrated through the process so far. He's a four-year starter at right tackle, and that experience makes him one of the most consistent and technically sound tackles in this class. He should hit the ground running early in his rookie season.

• Here are a few names that just missed our cut: Texas A&M's **Dametrious Crownover**, Illinois' **J.C. Davis**, and Boise State's **Kage Casey**.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Will Campbell, Round 1, Pick 4, New England Patriots

Picks by round: Round 1 (5), Round 2 (3), Round 3 (2), Round 4 (1), Round 5 (1), Round 6 (4), Round 7 (2)

Number drafted: 18

Average number drafted in the last five years: 28.4

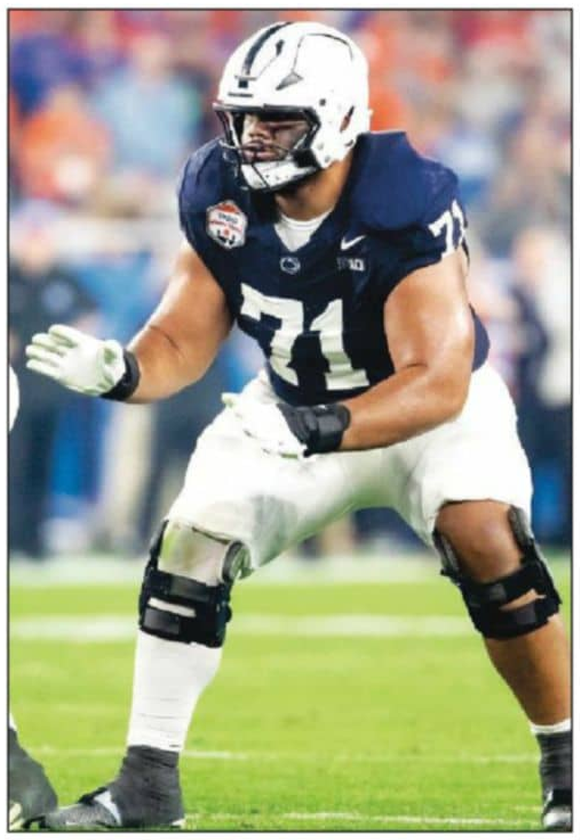
INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINE

OVERVIEW

This year's interior offensive line group is much heavier on guards than it is on centers, but there are plenty of solid options. This is another group that has a lot of experience, too. Every player listed in our top 10 has at least two years of starting experience, and a few have more than that. Generally, there's a bunch of tough, road-grading run blockers.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Olaivavega Ioane	Penn State	6-2	320	1st Round
2.	Emmanuel Pregnon	Oregon	6-4	314	2nd Round
3.	Chase Bisontis	Texas A&M	6-5	315	2nd Round
4.	Connor Lew	Auburn	6-3	313	3rd Round
5.	Jalen Farmer	Kentucky	6-4	312	3rd Round
6.	Billy Schrauth	Notre Dame	6-4	315	3rd Round
7.	Gennings Dunker	Iowa	6-5	319	3rd Round
8.	Keylan Rutledge	Georgia Tech	6-3	316	4th Round
9.	Sam Hecht	Kansas State	6-4	303	4th Round
10.	Trey Zuhn III	Texas A&M	6-6	312	4th Round

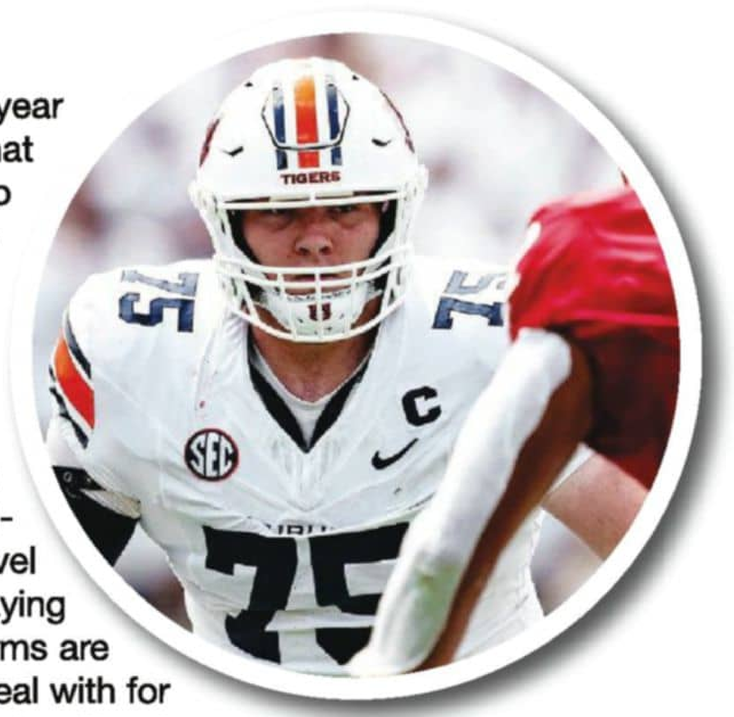


HEAD OF THE CLASS

Olaivavega Ioane
Penn State

Ioane is our top-rated offensive lineman overall. At 6-2, 320 pounds, he's got an argument as the best pass protector in this entire class. The last time he allowed a sack was during the 2023 season, and his tape is filled with high-quality reps against excellent competition. He's also a powerful run blocker with the toughness and power to create consistent rushing lanes. Ioane might be the easiest evaluation in this class — the only question is how high a team will value

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

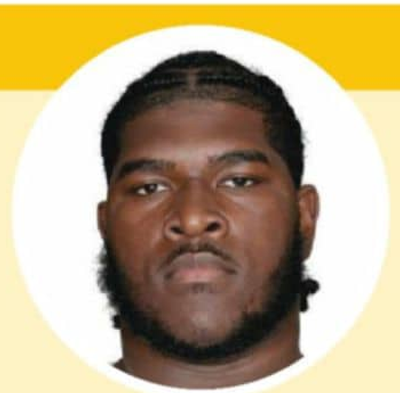


• Oregon's **Emmanuel Pregnon** is a rare breed. He's a four-year starter at three different schools (Wyoming, USC, Oregon). That might become more common as the transfer portal continues to get crazier, but starting at three different places across four seasons is still wild. On tape, Pregnon is a dense, physical blocker who excels in the running game. He's more than willing to put defenders into the dirt, and he's hard to run through in pass protection.

• Kentucky's **Jalen Farmer** is a player we're higher on than consensus. His power and NFL-ready build stood out at the Senior Bowl, where he had several impressive reps against high-level competition. He's a total people mover in the running game, playing with one of the nastiest streaks this class offers. His 34-inch arms are way above average for a guard, and they make him a pain to deal with for pass rushers. His technical work needs some development, but he's still underrated.

• Iowa's **Gennings Dunker** is another mauler. He played tackle at Iowa, but it becomes clear within the first couple of plays of his tape that he's better on the interior. We're probably lower on Dunker than other analysts, though. Simply, Dunker's movement skills look well below average. He tested well enough to alleviate some concerns, but Dunker is a scheme-specific starter, something well worth a third-round pick.

• Our top-rated centers are Auburn's **Connor Lew** and Kansas State's **Sam Hecht**. Lew suffered a season-ending ACL injury in October, but he's an impressive pass blocker. Hecht is a multi-year starter who was a standout at the Senior Bowl.



HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Tyler Booker, Round 1, Pick 12, Dallas Cowboys

Picks by round: Round 1 (3), Round 2 (2), Round 3 (4), Round 4 (0), Round 5 (5), Round 6 (3), Round 7 (4)

Number drafted: 21

Average number drafted in the last five years: 22.0

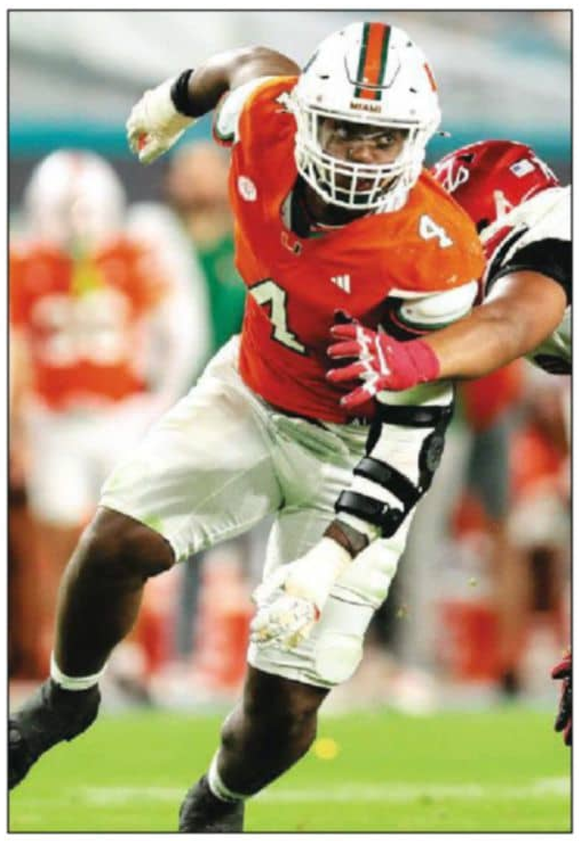
EDGE RUSHERS

OVERVIEW

Like many of the defensive position groups, this year's edge class is strong at the top and has a ton of depth. As many as five or six could go in the first round, depending on how early the run starts at the top of the draft, and it's likely to be the first position off the board behind a quarterback. One item of note: we're classifying Ohio State's Arvell Reese as an off-ball linebacker.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Rueben Bain Jr.	Miami	6-2	263	1st Round
2.	David Bailey	Texas Tech	6-3	251	1st Round
3.	T.J. Parker	Clemson	6-3	263	2nd Round
4.	Keldric Faulk	Auburn	6-5	267	2nd Round
5.	Akheem Mesidor	Miami	6-3	259	2nd Round
6.	Cashius Howell	Texas A&M	6-2	253	2nd Round
7.	R. Mason Thomas	Oklahoma	6-2	241	2nd Round
8.	Zion Young	Missouri	6-5	262	3rd Round
9.	Gabe Jacas	Illinois	6-3	260	3rd Round
10.	Dani Dennis-Sutton	Penn State	6-5	266	3rd Round



HEAD OF THE CLASS

Rueben Bain Jr.
Miami

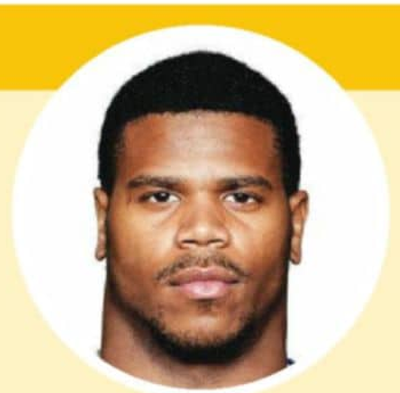
Most of the talk about Bain Jr. will center on his arm length. They measured in at 30-7/8 inches at the combine, which would make him a major outlier among NFL edge rushers. That said, Bain's tape is tremendous. He wins with speed, power, and technique consistently. He's also wildly explosive and clearly strong enough to compete as a rookie. Bain did a nice job stacking blocks on tape, too. He'll have to manage some of the weaknesses that come with shorter

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

• **Rueben Bain Jr.** isn't the only edge rusher with length concerns in this class. Texas A&M's **Cashius Howell** came in with 30-1/4-inch arms, which would give him some of the shortest arms in the Combine era. Unlike Bain, Howell is a pure speed rusher who can bend and dip around the outside edge with ease. He's an incredibly effective pass rusher, but he's outside our top five because of how the arm length (and weight) might affect his run defense.

• Clemson's **T.J. Parker** and Auburn's **Keldric Faulk** fall into a similar category. Both came into the season with incredibly high expectations, but had mundane 2025 seasons. Still, it's easy to see how many NFL tools both of them have on tape. Parker has good all-around size and has flashes of true pass-rush dominance, while playing solid run defense. Faulk is even bigger than Parker while maintaining smooth movement skills. The Auburn product is just 20 years old and should have a high floor because of his solid run defense. Both need some development, but they should land somewhere in the first round.

• Rounding out our top five is Miami's Akheem Mesidor. He's one of the most technically sound pass rushers in this class and is coming off a dominant season for the Hurricanes. His big question will be age. He'll be 25 before the start of next season, which is quite old for a rookie. While many are worried because of a potential second contract, it's also fair to wonder if it's a red flag that it took Mesidor six college seasons to truly break out.



HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Abdul Carter, Round 1, Pick 3, New York Giants

Picks by round: Round 1 (4), Round 2 (4), Round 3 (6), Round 4 (2), Round 5 (4), Round 6 (2), Round 7 (1)

Number drafted: 23

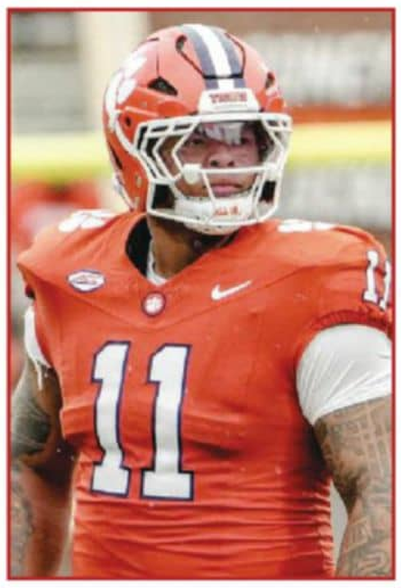
Average number drafted in the last five years: 28.5

INTERIOR DEFENSIVE LINE

OVERVIEW

This year's interior defensive line class isn't overly strong at the top, but it's got a ton of players who are excellent run defenders. If a team needs a nose tackle, there should be plenty of opportunities throughout the draft. This is a nice complement to the NFL returning to more power football in recent seasons — most teams need more size up front.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10



No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Caleb Banks	Florida	6-6	327	2nd Round
2.	Peter Woods	Clemson	6-2	298	2nd Round
3.	Christen Miller	Georgia	6-3	321	2nd Round
4.	Kayden McDonald	Ohio State	6-2	326	2nd Round
5.	Lee Hunter	Texas Tech	6-3	318	2nd Round
6.	Domonique Orange	Iowa State	6-2	322	3rd Round
7.	Dontay Corleone	Cincinnati	6-0	340	3rd Round
8.	Gracen Halton	Oklahoma	6-2	293	4th Round
9.	Darrell Jackson	Florida State	6-5	315	4th Round
10.	Zane Durant	Penn State	6-1	290	4th Round

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Caleb Banks
Florida

This was one of this year's harder "head of the class" selections. We went with Banks mostly because of his upside. If there's any defensive tackle in this class who will become an all-around star, it's probably the 6-6, 327-pounder with elite explosiveness and impressive flashes on tape. The concern with Banks is his injury history. He missed most of the 2025 season with a broken foot, but he did return for the last two games. That makes Banks a risk, but this group

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

• Clemson's **Peter Woods** was considered a top-10 player heading into the season, but he struggled in 2025. Woods' pre-draft process probably hasn't helped a ton, either. He measured in at just 6-2, 298 pounds with 31-inch arms at the combine. That is an incredibly small profile, which would be fine if he tested super well. However, he decided not to participate. All of that said, Woods' "bad" tape is still NFL-starter caliber. He's stout against the run, and he's got nice pass-rush flashes. Don't push him too far down the board.

• This is where the run on nose tackles starts. There's a fair argument that **Christen Miller, Kayden McDonald, Lee Hunter, Domonique Orange**, and **Dontay Corleone** are all best served playing either zero or one-tech at the next level. Miller and McDonald lead the way as dominant physical presences on good teams with a little bit of twitch. We're a little lower on Hunter than some because his pass-rush tape just isn't consistent. He had some nice moments at the Senior Bowl, but the tape is below average in that category. Orange and Corleone project as solid starters, with little pass-rush upside.

• Oklahoma's **Gracen Halton** is one of the few one-gap penetrating style interior defensive linemen in this class. He's got the explosiveness to work his way into gaps, causing a lot of disruption against the run and pass. He's a bit undersized, but he holds his own against the run reasonably well. He might start out as a rotational player, but if he can add a little more strength, there's a good chance he can be a solid starter.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Mason Graham, Round 1, Pick 5, Cleveland Browns

Picks by round: Round 1 (5), Round 2 (4), Round 3 (3), Round 4 (5), Round 5 (5), Round 6 (4), Round 7 (4)

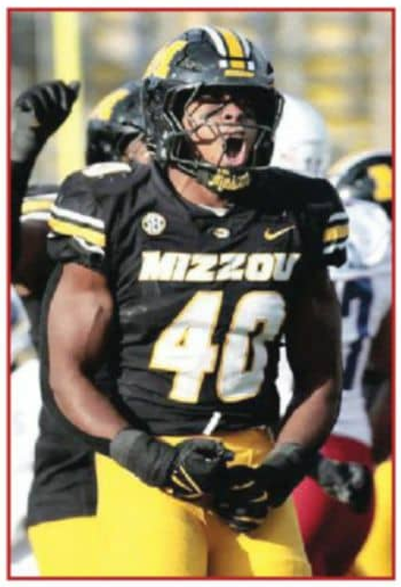
Number drafted: 30

Average number drafted in the last five years: 21.4

LINEBACKERS

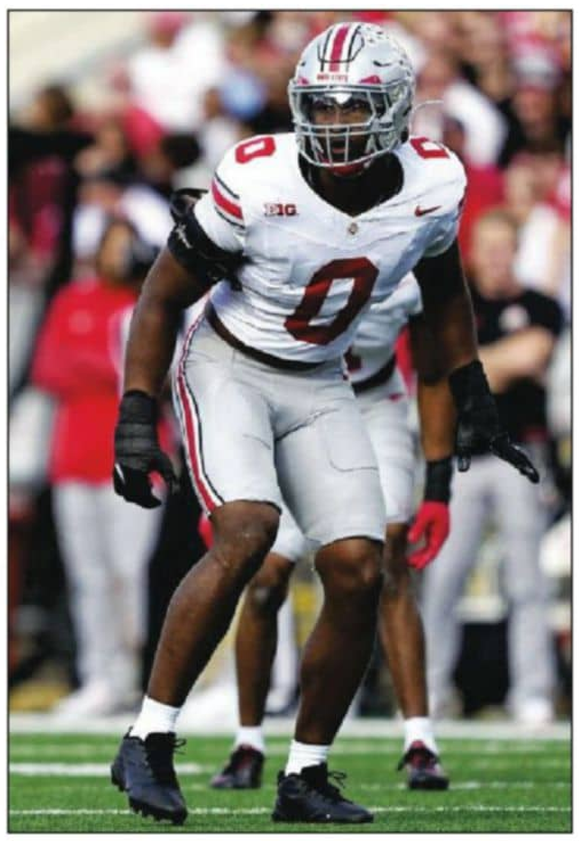
OVERVIEW

Everyone agrees that this linebacker class is quite good, and if you include Ohio State's Arvell Reese it gets even better. This class has also played a decent amount of football throughout their college careers. It's not an old group per se, but it's an experienced one, with several players who can fill multiple roles. There's top-end explosiveness as well as valuable depth.



DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Sonny Styles	Ohio State	6-5	244	1st Round
2.	Arvell Reese	Ohio State	6-4	241	1st Round
3.	C.J. Allen	Georgia	6-0	230	2nd Round
4.	Jake Golday	Cincinnati	6-4	239	3rd Round
5.	Josiah Trotter	Missouri	6-1	237	3rd Round
6.	Anthony Hill Jr.	Texas	6-2	238	3rd Round
7.	Jacob Rodriguez	Texas Tech	6-1	231	3rd Round
8.	Kyle Louis	Pittsburgh	5-11	220	3rd Round
9.	Deontae Lawson	Alabama	6-2	226	4th Round
10.	Keyshaun Elliott	Arizona State	6-1	231	4th Round

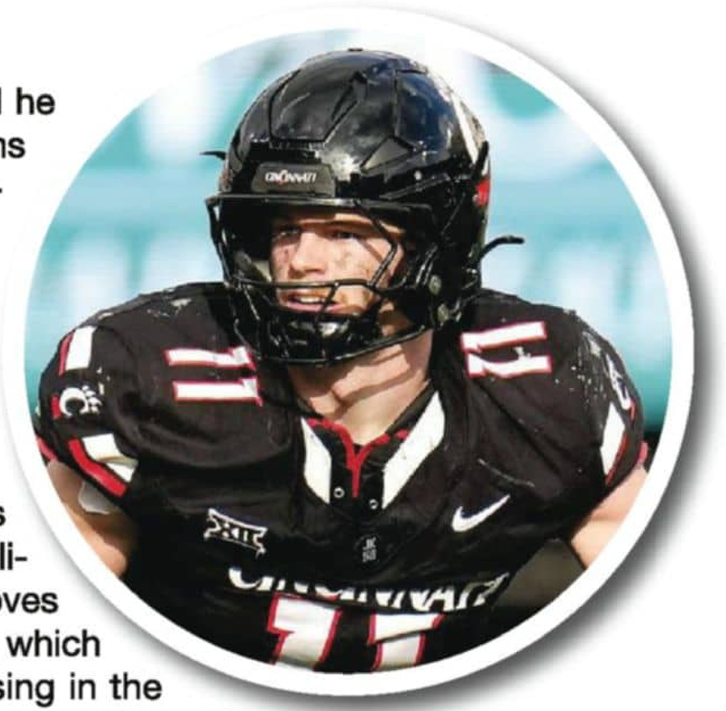


HEAD OF THE CLASS

Sonny Styles
Ohio State

If you could create a modern NFL linebacker in a lab, it would pretty much look like Styles. The Ohio State product is big, but is one of the best athletes in the entire class, which his Combine performance proved quite easily. The explosiveness that he showed in his testing shows up on tape in spades. He can cover ground inside the box against the run and be an effective coverage option. Styles is also one of the best tacklers in this class — he was charged with just two

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK



• **Arvell Reese** will get some push to play on the edge, and he has said he likes playing on the ball. It's not hard to see why teams might project him there if you watch his tape. However, his off-ball linebacker tape is excellent, and he's the right size to play there. Reese would be a small edge rusher, much like Jalon Walker was last offseason. Walker went in the first round to the Atlanta Falcons, but Reese is a much stronger, better player, so he could go as high as second overall. Ultimately, he'll bounce around the defensive front plenty.

• Cincinnati's **Jake Golday** isn't getting enough hype in this class. He's long, fast, tough, and experienced in the responsibilities of a modern-day linebacker. At 6-4, 239 pounds, Golday moves quite well out in space. The Bearcats played him in the slot a lot, which made his job much harder. He's great at reading and diagnosing in the running game and should play in the box in the NFL. He projects as the perfect middle-round linebacker.

• Missouri's **Josiah Trotter** was a surprising addition to the draft class. He's the son of former Philadelphia Eagles All-Pro linebacker Jeremiah Trotter Sr., and the brother of current NFL linebacker Jeremiah Trotter Jr. That means he knows what he's getting himself into, but he's declaring as just a redshirt-sophomore. Trotter is a "hammer" in the middle of the defense who loves to hit and play downhill.

• This is a deep class, so we had a few names just miss our list, including Indiana's **Aiden Fisher**, Oregon's **Bryce Boettcher**, and TCU's **Kaleb Elarms-Orr.** All three will be valuable depth players.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Jihaad Campbell, Round 1, Pick 31, Philadelphia Eagles

Picks by round: Round 1 (1), Round 2 (3), Round 3 (1), Round 4 (9), Round 5 (6), Round 6 (3), Round 7 (2)

Number drafted: 25

Average number drafted in the last five years: 21.6

CORNERBACKS

OVERVIEW

The cornerback class is one of the deeper groups in the 2026 NFL draft. The two at the top, Jermod McCoy and Mansoor Delane, project as solid top options. After that, there's a bunch of players with different skill sets who might get drafted earlier based on team preference. One thing is certain, though: this is a smaller group of cornerbacks.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

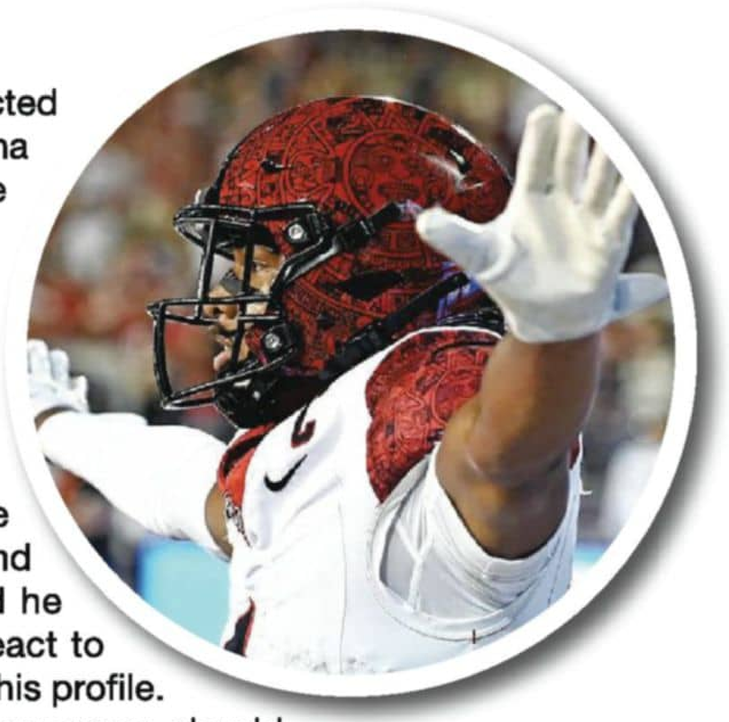
No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Jermod McCoy	Tennessee	6-0	188	1st Round
2.	Mansoor Delane	LSU	5-11	187	1st Round
3.	Avieon Terrell	Clemson	5-10	186	2nd Round
4.	Keith Abney II	Arizona State	5-9	187	2nd Round
5.	Colton Hood	Tennessee	5-11	193	2nd Round
6.	Brandon Cisse	South Carolina	5-11	189	2nd Round
7.	Chris Johnson	San Diego State	6-0	193	3rd Round
8.	D'Angelo Ponds	Indiana	5-8	182	3rd Round
9.	Treydan Stukes	Arizona	6-0	190	3rd Round
10.	Devin Moore	Florida	6-3	198	3rd Round

HEAD OF THE CLASS

Jermod McCoy
Tennessee

The top question about McCoy will be around his medicals. The Tennessee standout missed the entire 2025 season after suffering a knee injury in the Vols' College Football Playoff loss to Ohio State at the end of the 2024 season. McCoy also decided not to participate in drills at the Combine. He said he was healthy, but wanted more time to train after his recovery. McCoy's 2024 tape is easily the best this class has to offer. He was elite in man-coverage and made

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK



• This class has a lot of cornerbacks who might get projected into the slot by some teams. Clemson's **Avieon Terrell**, Arizona State's **Keith Abney II**, and Indiana's **D'Angelo Ponds** are three players who fit that mold. We think all three can play on the outside, as they're all efficient with their movements and physical enough to battle bigger receivers. Plus, slot cornerbacks are incredibly important in the modern NFL, so don't let that become a bad thing in your mind.

• San Diego State's **Chris Johnson** was probably one of the bigger "winners" from the Combine. He came into the event with questions about his speed, and ran a 4.40-second 40-yard dash. Johnson doesn't look that fast on tape, and he mostly played in zone coverage, so we don't want to overreact to that time. Still, it was nice to know Johnson has that speed in his profile. Any team looking for a solid option to play outside in zone coverage should like Johnson. His tape isn't flashy at all, but he's technically sound and experienced enough to start as a rookie.

• **Treydan Stukes** from Arizona is a player we're higher on than most. There's a debate about whether he's a cornerback or safety because he's done a good bit of both. He mostly played as a slot cornerback this past season, so that's where we're slotting him. He's a bigger player for the slot, and he's got plenty of speed to go with that size. Despite ranking him as a cornerback, he fits more into the mold of the modern "big slot" defender that has become popular in recent seasons.

HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Travis Hunter, Round 1, Pick 2, Jacksonville Jaguars

Picks by round: Round 1 (3), Round 2 (3), Round 3 (9), Round 4 (1), Round 5 (5), Round 6 (4), Round 7 (5)

Number drafted: 30

Average number drafted in the last five years: 34.4

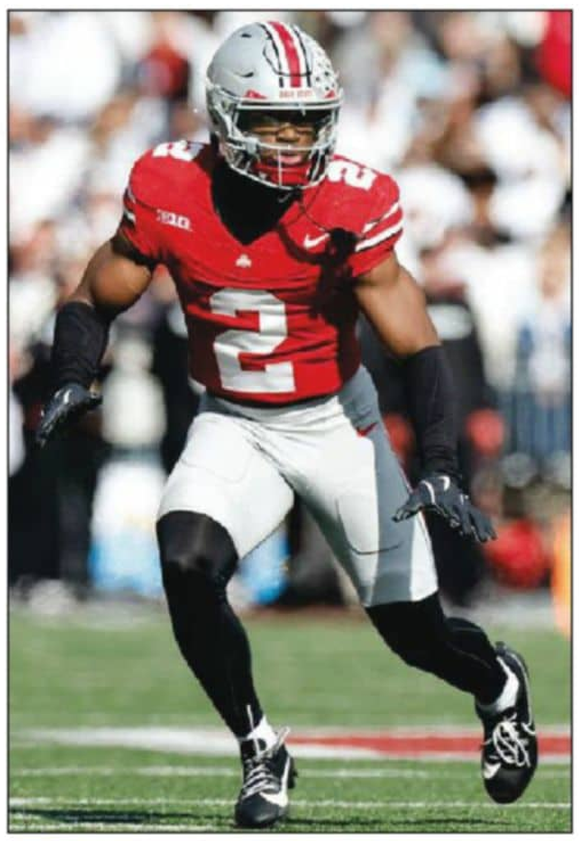
SAFETIES

OVERVIEW

It's a good year to need a safety. There are a bunch of players who project as early starters, and there's a diversity of body types and roles, too. Caleb Downs is the crown jewel of the class, but many others could fill various roles in their rookie seasons. Only six safeties heard their names called Day 1 or 2 last year. Expect that number to be higher this time around.

DRAFT DIGEST'S TOP 10

No.	Player	School	Ht.	Wt.	Tape Grade
1.	Caleb Downs	Ohio State	5-11	206	1st Round
2.	Emmanuel McNeil-Warren	Toledo	6-3	201	2nd Round
3.	Dillon Thieneman	Oregon	6-0	201	2nd Round
4.	A.J. Haulcy	LSU	5-11	215	2nd Round
5.	Kamari Ramsey	USC	6-0	202	3rd Round
6.	Genesis Smith	Arizona	6-2	202	3rd Round
7.	Jakobe Thomas	Miami	6-1	211	3rd Round
8.	Zakee Wheatley	Penn State	6-3	203	3rd Round
9.	Bud Clark	TCU	6-0	188	4th Round
10.	Jalon Kilgore	South Carolina	6-1	210	4th Round



HEAD OF THE CLASS

Caleb Downs
Ohio State

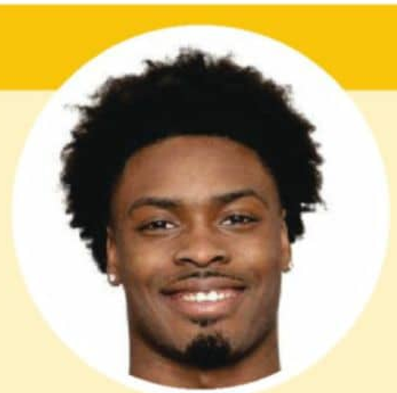
Not only is Downs our top-rated safety, but he's our No. 1 overall player in this entire class. He was a three-year starter, two with the Buckeyes and one as a freshman under Nick Saban at Alabama. He was productive in all three seasons, playing a variety of roles on the back end. He can play in deep zones, step into the box, and even work out of the slot. His football intelligence, toughness, and versatility jump off the screen. Safety isn't the most valuable position, but Downs'

SCOUTING NOTEBOOK

• Toledo's **Emmanuel McNeil-Warren** is one of the more fun players to watch in this class. He's got a huge frame at 6-3, 201 pounds, and has that old-school style of being an enforcer in the middle of the field. He's not afraid to throw his body around and hit ball carriers and receivers hard. He has proven the ability to make plays on the ball with five career interceptions and 10 pass breakups.

• **Dillon Thieneman** is another prospect who projects well to a bunch of spots. It's actually a good idea to go back and watch his Purdue tape before he transferred to Oregon this past season. There, he played a lot more single-high safety and proved he had the speed and instincts to do it at the NFL level. Obviously, his 4.35-second 40-yard dash also backs that up. While we have a second-round grade on Thieneman, there is a real chance he goes in the first round. Teams might see him as a true chess piece, but we're a little skeptical of his ability to play man coverage from the slot.

• If a team is looking for deep safety help, LSU's **A.J. Haulcy**, USC's **Kamari Ramsey**, and Arizona's **Genesis Smith** are three excellent options. Haulcy showed tremendous ball skills, and he's a hard hitter in the middle of the field. Ramsey got relegated to slot duties this year, but his tape from 2024 shows a player with a lot of range. Smith is flying a bit under the radar, but he might have the most impressive plays on the ball in the entire class. He has tremendous instincts and can turn to run exceptionally well.



HISTORY LESSON

2025 Highest pick: Malaki Starks, Round 1, Pick 27, Baltimore Ravens

Picks by round: Round 1 (1), Round 2 (2), Round 3 (3), Round 4 (4), Round 5 (2), Round 6 (3), Round 7 (3)

Number drafted: 18

Average number drafted in the last five years: 20.0

TOP 100

This is our Top 100 for the 2026 NFL Draft. Positional value is a factor, but the majority of a player's ranking is based on his film grade. Here's how our board stacks up for April's draft.

No.	Name	Pos.	College
1.	Caleb Downs	SAF	Ohio State
2.	Jeremiyah Love	RB	Notre Dame
3.	Fernando Mendoza	QB	Indiana
4.	Sonny Styles	LB	Ohio State
5.	Arvell Reese	LB/EDGE	Ohio State
6.	Rueben Bain Jr.	EDGE	Miami
7.	Carnell Tate	WR	Ohio State
8.	Jermod McCoy	CB	Tennessee
9.	Jordyn Tyson	WR	Arizona State
10.	Mansoor Delane	CB	LSU
11.	David Bailey	EDGE	Texas Tech
12.	Olaivavega Ioane	IOL	Penn State
13.	Francis Mauigoa	IOL	Miami
14.	Makai Lemon	WR	USC
15.	Caleb Banks	IDL	Florida
16.	Spencer Fano	OT	Utah
17.	Denzel Boston	WR	Washington
18.	K.C. Concepcion	WR	Texas A&M
19.	T.J. Parker	EDGE	Clemson
20.	Keldric Faulk	EDGE	Auburn
21.	Avieon Terrell	CB	Clemson
22.	Monroe Freeling	OT	Georgia
23.	Kenyon Sadiq	TE	Oregon
24.	Akheem Mesidor	EDGE	Miami
25.	Peter Woods	IDL	Clemson
26.	Caleb Lomu	OT	Utah
27.	Keith Abney II	CB	Arizona State
28.	Emmanuel McNeil-Warren	SAF	Toledo
29.	C.J. Allen	LB	Georgia
30.	Cashius Howell	EDGE	Texas A&M
31.	Colton Hood	CB	Tennessee
32.	Blake Miller	OT	Clemson
33.	Christen Miller	IDL	Georgia
34.	Brandon Cisse	CB	South Carolina
35.	Omar Cooper Jr.	WR	Indiana
36.	R. Mason Thomas	EDGE	Oklahoma
37.	Max Iheanachor	OT	Arizona State
38.	Emmanuel Pregnon	IOL	Oregon
39.	Kayden McDonald	IDL	Ohio State
40.	Kadyn Proctor	IOL	Alabama
41.	Dillon Thieneman	SAF	Oregon
42.	Lee Hunter	IDL	Texas Tech
43.	Chris Bell	WR	Louisville
44.	Jonah Coleman	RB	Washington
45.	A.J. Haulcy	SAF	LSU
46.	Kamari Ramsey	SAF	USC
47.	Chris Johnson	CB	San Diego State
48.	Zion Young	EDGE	Missouri
49.	Gabe Jacas	EDGE	Illinois

No.	Name	Pos.	College
51.	D'Angelo Ponds	CB	Indiana
52.	Jake Golday	LB	Cincinnati
53.	Chase Bisontis	IOL	Texas A&M
54.	Treydan Stukes	CB	Arizona
55.	Genesis Smith	SAF	Arizona
56.	Devin Moore	CB	Florida
57.	Domonique Orange	IDL	Iowa State
58.	Max Klare	TE	Ohio State
59.	Keionte Scott	CB	Miami
60.	Dani Dennis-Sutton	EDGE	Penn State
61.	Elijah Sarratt	WR	Indiana
62.	Jadarian Price	RB	Notre Dame
63.	Malachi Fields	WR	Notre Dame
64.	Connor Lew	IOL	Auburn
65.	Germie Bernard	WR	Alabama
66.	Josiah Trotter	LB	Missouri
67.	Dontay Corleone	IDL	Cincinnati
68.	Malachi Lawrence	EDGE	Central Florida
69.	Julian Neal	CB	Arkansas
70.	L.T. Overton	EDGE	Alabama
71.	Anthony Hill Jr.	LB	Texas
72.	Chris Brazzell II	WR	Tennessee
73.	Ted Hurst	WR	Georgia State
74.	Joshua Josephs	EDGE	Tennessee
75.	Jakobe Thomas	SAF	Miami
76.	Zakee Wheatley	SAF	Penn State
77.	Derrick Moore	EDGE	Michigan
78.	Jude Bowry	OT	Boston College
79.	Jalen Farmer	IOL	Kentucky
80.	Oscar Delp	TE	Georgia
81.	Billy Schrauth	IOL	Notre Dame
82.	Romello Height	EDGE	Texas Tech
83.	Davison Igbinosun	CB	Ohio State
84.	Sam Roush	TE	Stanford
85.	Jacob Rodriguez	LB	Texas Tech
86.	Gennings Dunker	IOL	Iowa
87.	Deontae Lawson	LB	Alabama
88.	Kyle Louis	LB	Pittsburgh
89.	Antonio Williams	WR	Clemson
90.	Eli Stowers	TE	Vanderbilt
91.	Garrett Nussmeier	QB	LSU
92.	Malik Muhammad	CB	Texas
93.	Bryce Lance	WR	North Dakota State
94.	Emmett Johnson	RB	Nebraska
95.	Brenen Thompson	WR	Mississippi State
96.	Nicholas Singleton	RB	Penn State
97.	C.J. Daniels	WR	Miami
98.	Deion Burks	WR	Oklahoma
99.	Justin Joly	TE	N.C. State

DRAFT DEBATE by Dante Collinelli

Production vs. Projection

One of the dilemmas that makes the NFL draft so interesting is how teams weigh potential against proven ability. With players staying in college longer than ever, more prospects have huge stat lines and a ton of starts. However, there are still a bunch with just one year of production and impressive athletic traits that could turn them into elite players. How a team navigates this challenge will often indicate a lot about how it views itself. Contenders lean toward "production," while rebuilding teams lean toward "projection." We're aiming to look at two prospects who embody this dilemma at each position in the upcoming draft.

JONAH COLEMAN

JADARIAN PRICE

Quarterback

Production: Garrett Nussmeier, LSU
Projection: Ty Simpson, Alabama

This exercise is tricky for the quarterback class. So many are staying in school longer and racking up plenty of production. However, Simpson is just a first-year starter. He was at Alabama for four seasons, but he had to wait his turn. Because Simpson's sample size is so small and inconsistent, there's a lot of projection that will go into who he could become in the NFL. In turn, Nussmeier is a two-year starter who is the son of an NFL offensive coordinator. He's proven he can consistently execute NFL passing concepts and manage a huddle. The one thing that Simpson and Nussmeier have in common is that they're both a bit undersized. While neither has overwhelming arm talent, Simpson's is better, pointing to a nice projection as a potential starter. Teams looking for QB help in the middle rounds will have a challenging decision between these two. Nussmeier might maintain the offense's floor, but Simpson could push its ceiling a bit higher.

Running Back

Production: Jonah Coleman, Washington
Projection: Jadarian Price, Notre Dame

Price was a solid contributor for Notre Dame the last two seasons, but he was never the team's lead back. He was behind Jeremiyah Love, so that's not his fault, but as the potential second running back off the board, that comes with some

yards, respectively, in the last two seasons. Coleman was Washington's bell-cow back for the last three seasons, racking up rushing totals of 758, 1,060, and 863, respectively. Coleman is also a more well-rounded player. He has contributed 87 catches in his career compared to Price's 15. Price is a more explosive player, but Coleman is far more consistent and experienced.

Wide Receiver

Production: Skyler Bell, UConn
Projection: Zachariah Branch, Georgia

We dug a little deeper into the class to look at two potential slot receivers whom teams might be considering in the middle rounds. Branch is one of the fastest and most explosive receivers in this class, but has always struggled to earn a consistent target share. Georgia's offense hasn't helped him a ton in that area. Plus, he has relied heavily on screens throughout his career. He has the skills to do more than that, but it's all projection. Bell was UConn's top target the last two years, including 1,282 yards on 102 catches in 2025. He also gradually ran a more diverse route tree after relying on screens a lot as well. Bell looks more ready, but he doesn't have Branch's athletic upside. There's no denying who the faster and more dangerous player is, but Bell's consistency and development at the college level can't be overlooked.

Tight End

Production: Eli Stowers, Vanderbilt
Projection: Michael Trigg, Baylor

Any team looking for a receiving tight end to play H-back or in the slot will have these two players on its board. Stowers posted good numbers in back-to-back seasons for Vanderbilt, proving his transition from a four-star QB recruit to tight end was the right choice. Stowers racked up 1,407 yards and 111 catches the last two seasons. Trigg spent five years in college for three teams and only eclipsed 400 yards once — last season with Baylor. His athletic upside is clear, but there's a lot of projection involved for him to become a consistent presence in a receiving room. He can make acrobatic catches like nobody's business, and those splash plays could entice some teams. Still, Stowers has already proven he's capable of being a reliable presence.

Offensive Tackle

Production: Blake Miller, Clemson
Projection: Caleb Lomu, Utah

Offensive tackle tends to be one of the positions where "projection" players are frequently drafted ahead of "production" players, and that might be the case with Lomu vs. Miller. Lomu is a two-year starter, but it's obvious on film that he's still incredibly raw. His technique and body don't quite look NFL-ready, but his athletic profile and length usually get drafted in the first round. Miller is a three-year starter who played in a bunch of big games at Clemson and is technically sound already. He's a good athlete, but his ceiling isn't as high as Lomu's. That lack of ceiling has put Miller outside the first round in most mock drafts, while Lomu is usually selected within the first 20 picks. That's not too surprising, but Lomu's profile is almost based entirely on projection.

Interior Offensive Line

Production: Emmanuel Pregnon, Oregon
Projection: Chase Bisontis, Texas A&M

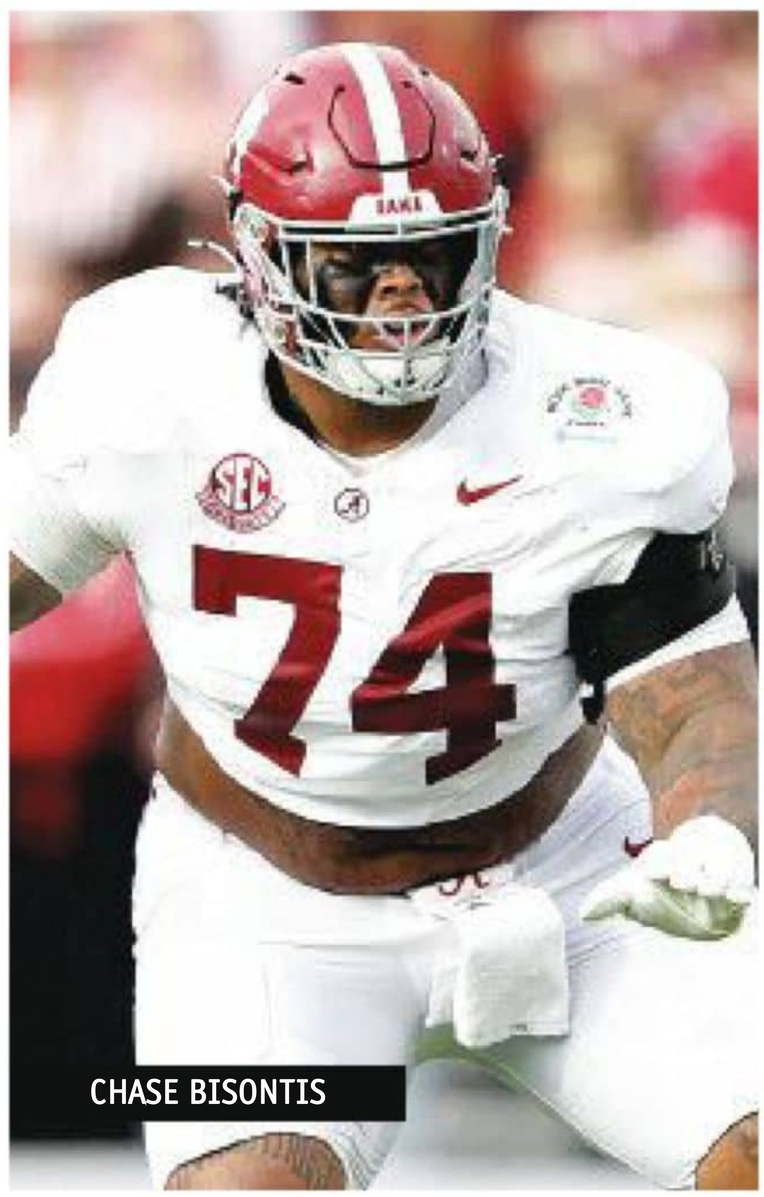
Guard was a tricky position to pin down because so many of these players have played a lot of football. However, few have played as much as Pregnon. He's a four-year starter for three teams (USC, Wyoming, Oregon), and has been a reliable presence at all three stops. He's not the most athletic guard, but he's sturdy and powerful. Pregnon's power in the running game also sets his floor pretty high for a potential rookie starter. Bisontis is a three-year starter who's more raw, but has the athletic gifts that certain offenses crave. His pass protection tape has some incredibly impressive recoveries against high-level competition. Both players have "production," but there's a bit more "projection" baked into Bisontis' profile. Teams tend to lean on reliability a little more at guard than at tackle for some reason (likely because tackles have to be more athletic), so Pregnon and Bisontis provide a nice case study for whether the league is changing how it views guard prospects.

Interior Defensive Line

Production: Peter Woods, Clemson
Projection: Caleb Banks, Florida

There's a good chance these are the first interior defensive linemen to go off the board, and they might embody this exercise better than any pairing on this list. Woods was a three-year contributor who posted six sacks, 54

EMMANUEL PREGNON


CHASE BISONTIS

pressures, and 61 run stops. Banks has more sacks (7), but has played fewer than 1,000 snaps in his collegiate career. Some of that is due to the foot injuries he dealt with last season. He missed all but three games, but in that limited sample size, it's quite easy to see his elite athletic profile. Therein lies the dilemma. Banks' upside is undeniable, but the sample size of success pales in comparison to Woods' reliable track record of consistent play. Woods also has the stigma of a somewhat underwhelming 2025 season working against him. He was still productive, but not quite the dominant player many expected.

Edge Rusher

Production: Akheem Mesidor, Miami
Projection: Keldric Faulk, Auburn

There will be a lot of jokes made about Mesidor's age this draft cycle. He'll be 25 by the start of the NFL season, and he spent six years in college. Mesidor performed fine enough before 2025, but this past year, he was one of the most productive pass rushers in the country, recording 13 sacks for the Hurricanes. Faulk is just 20 years old and has 13 sacks in his entire career. Though he lacks production, Faulk has impressive movement skills for his 6-6, 285-pound frame. Teams in the middle of the first round will have to make a choice between the player Mesidor is now and the player Faulk could become in a few seasons. That is not an easy choice at a position such as edge rusher because traits and athletic upside are usually favored over cerebral rushers.

A.J. HAULCY

GENESIS SMITH

Linebacker

Production: Jacob Rodriguez, Texas Tech
Projection: Josiah Trotter, Missouri

No player in this section defines "production" better than Rodriguez. In 2025, he recorded 128 total tackles, 11 tackles for loss, one sack, four interceptions, six passes defended, seven forced fumbles, and two fumble recoveries. In fact, he was so productive that he finished fifth in the Heisman voting. Trotter is a redshirt sophomore declaring after only two seasons as a starter, one of which came in the SEC. He has 176 total tackles and 17 tackles for loss in his two seasons, which Rodriguez almost matched this past year. Trotter's upside and downhill style make his projection a lot more intriguing, though. Rodriguez is smart, but he's a modest athlete and isn't the biggest player

Cornerback

Production: Mansoor Delane, LSU
Projection: Jermod McCoy, Tennessee

The perceived top cornerbacks in this class couldn't be more different. Delane was a four-year contributor (three as a full-time starter) and has racked up eight interceptions and 27 pass breakups in his career, including two interceptions and 11 pass breakups at LSU in 2025. Delane is about as experienced and productive as a college cornerback can be. McCoy has just two years of experience, and he missed the entire 2025 season with a knee injury. He has produced six interceptions and 16 pass breakups in two seasons, but there's a lot of projection involved in his profile because he missed all of last season. McCoy also has more athletic upside than Delane. How teams balance Delane's reliability with McCoy's potential will be one of the bigger under-

Safety

Production: A.J. Haulcy, LSU
Projection: Genesis Smith, Arizona

Safety is another position where many of the top options have extensive experience. Haulcy is one of the most productive options because he was a four-year starter. Across seasons at New Mexico, Houston, and LSU, Haulcy racked up 347 total tackles, 10 interceptions, and 19 passes defended. He has proven his ability to make an impact despite playing deep zones for most of his college career. Smith was only a big-time contributor for the past two seasons on the Wildcats' defense. He has produced well in that time, though, securing 164 total tackles, five interceptions, and 14 passes defended. Like Haulcy, Smith also plays in deep zones. Haulcy's profile is a little more rounded out, but Smith's projection is a dominant single-high safety. That's pretty rare these days, so that could

TRENDING by Dante Collinelli

Power football is back in vogue

The NFL always goes through phases — it's a copycat league after all.

Its latest phase was the "spread and shred," prioritizing three-receiver sets, speed, and explosive plays. That led defenses to match by becoming smaller, more agile, and faster. Passing offenses got so good that defenses had to prioritize coverage over everything.

However, the pendulum might be swinging back in the other direction for offenses. The 2025 season saw teams use a ton of heavy personnel packages, whether that meant using more tight ends or an extra offensive lineman.

In fact, extra sixth offensive linemen had more snaps through 16 games this past season than they have in the last decade. That 16-game sample size is nice because it removes the extra game that qualifies some records these days.

Even multiple-tight-end sets have become more popular. The use of 12 and 13 personnel has increased every season since 2022, reaching 27.4 percent in 2025, according to TruMedia data.

All these numbers are neat, but what do they mean for the NFL draft? In short, a lot.

Take the two Super Bowl competitors — the Seattle Seahawks and New England Patriots — for example. They were two of only eight teams that used 22 personnel (two backs, two tight ends) on more than 7 percent of snaps this season. Of those eight teams, six made the playoffs, and five won at least one playoff game.

At a baseline level, this says a lot about the tight end position. More of them are getting on the field more often, which means that position is becoming more valuable. These heavier formations also mean tight ends must be capable of blocking on the line of scrimmage.

Those slot tight ends that everyone fell in love with in the early 2020s are having a tougher time finding their way onto the field. This also affects receivers — 11 personnel is still the most popular grouping, but even those sets are asking their slot receiver to contribute more in the running game than ever before.

Having a bigger slot receiver who can wash down on an edge and seal an outside rushing lane is more valuable to some teams than having an undersized speed threat.

Put simply, teams will want blocking at tight

this reflected in our rankings for both positions.

Receivers such as Notre Dame's Malachi Fields cracked our top 10 for several reasons, but one of them is how much effort he puts into blocking. Stanford tight end Sam Roush will probably be higher in our tight end rankings than other people's because he had a legitimate role on the line of scrimmage for multiple seasons.

Of course, this pivot to heavier formations will affect how defenses match up. If teams are rolling out heavier formations with more tight ends, that might pull some of the smaller coverage-specific linebackers and safeties off the field.

Going back to the Super Bowl, this is what made rookie safety Nick Emmanwori so valuable to the Seahawks' vaunted defense. His ability to cover tight ends and be a force in the running game allowed Seattle to stop the run while maintaining strong coverage numbers.

You'll see ripples of this reflected in our safety and cornerback rankings. The archetype for slot players is changing. It's no longer a place just for undersized cornerbacks or fast safeties. Those players must have the physicality to play against the run and handle tight ends in coverage.

D'Angelo Ponds from Indiana. Ponds is listed at 5-9, 182 pounds, and is often projected to the slot. Despite his size, he's a physical run defender, so he's the right type of smaller cornerback for the modern NFL.

Upfront, smaller edge rushers who made an impact with pure speed, but struggled against the run might have a tougher time. Teams aren't asking Mike Gesicki or Dalton Kincaid to block; they're using extra offensive linemen, such as the Steelers' Spencer Anderson or the Texans' Blake Fisher.

One example in this class is Texas Tech edge rusher Romello Height. He weighed in at just 239 pounds at the NFL Combine. There's no doubt he brings value as a pass rusher, but his run defense might keep him off the field too much for him to be a genuinely valuable player.

On the flip side, you have Auburn's Keldric Faulk. He's missing the pass-rush production, but he's 276 pounds with 34-inch arms. All Faulk has to do is develop a good power-rush profile, and he never needs to come off the field.

Paying attention to NFL trends is crucial in scouting, and right now, it seems like we're return-

Assessing the underclassmen

NIL and the transfer portal have drained the number of talented underclassmen entering the draft each season. There was a slight increase last season, but the overall downward trend of early declarations continued for the 2026 draft class. In this section, we'll look at players who made the right decision to declare and some who didn't.

The Smart Decisions

These are the players who declared early for the right reasons. There was nothing left for them to prove in college football, making it the perfect time to jump to the NFL. Not all of them are the top players at their position, though.

Quarterback

Fernando Mendoza feels like an obvious name to include in this section, but there are only two underclassmen quarterbacks in this class, and the other one definitely belongs in a different section. Mendoza won the Heisman Trophy and the National Championship at Indiana. There's quite literally nothing for him to accomplish at the collegiate level.

Running Back

Jeremiyah Love is the best running back in this class, but **Emmett Johnson** might benefit the most from declaring early. The Nebraska product burst onto the scene with 1,451 yards and 12 rushing touchdowns on 251 carries in 2025. Running back isn't the position to try to build on momentum. They have short shelf lives, so entering the draft after a massive season like Johnson had is a no-brainer.

Wide Receiver

Jordyn Tyson is a unique case in this year's class. He has battled injuries throughout his career at Colorado and Arizona State, which will undoubtedly raise some questions for NFL teams. He has dealt with knee, collarbone, and hamstring injuries. Tyson could've tried to stay in college for 2026 and prove he can stay healthy, but his tape is good enough to enter the draft now

MAX KLARE

Tight End

There were a lot of expectations for **Max Klare** when he transferred from Purdue to Ohio State last offseason. Klare was at best the third option in Ohio State's offense this past year, but still showed enough ability to expect to land on Day 2 of this draft. Staying for another year and trying to improve his numbers wasn't necessary.

Offensive Line

Monroe Freeling wasn't a name that appeared on many big boards throughout the 2025 season, but there's no doubt he's capitalizing on momentum and declaring at the right time. This year's tackle class has plenty of talent, but no far-and-away best prospect. Freeling's movement skills and NFL-ready frame (6-7, 315 pounds) could

Interior Defensive Line

Despite being a part of a stacked Ohio State defense, **Kayden McDonald** managed to stand out as a stalwart run defender in the middle. McDonald was smart to declare after his first breakout season and not give teams more time to debate whether his pass-rush ceiling is high enough to justify spending a first-round pick on him.

Edge Rusher

Rueben Bain Jr.'s decision to declare was an easy one — he has been selected inside the top five of just about every mock draft since the start of the season. His arm length might be a problem for some teams, but his strength, speed, and technique all point to a player who can con-

Linebacker

A lot of the talk around **Arvell Reese** this season centered around whether he was better off playing edge rusher. He could have gone back to Ohio State to prove that's something he could do full-time, but Reese's athletic ability makes him a super high-ceiling second-level defender right away. Reese is going high in this year's draft regardless.

Cornerback

The Clemson Tigers had a lot of top prospects this past season, but the team's lack of success weighed a good number of those guys down. Despite that, **Avieon Terrell** showed plenty on tape to be a first-round pick. He's smart, athletic, and a natural playmaker. Returning to Clemson just to go out on a higher note would've been a mistake.

Safety

Genesis Smith isn't a household name at safety, but one look at his tape from Arizona, and it's obvious that he's ready to play in the NFL. Smith had seven passes defended in 2025, and he played mostly at free safety. That's a high-stress role for a college player, but Smith handled it like someone who could be relied upon in that spot for an NFL defense.

The Surprise Declarations

Despite NIL providing significant financial relief for some players, surprising declarations still occur every season. For these players, an extra year of tape could've vaulted them multiple rounds higher in the draft. This doesn't mean these players aren't good. It's just that another year of college football would've answered some questions about their play.

Quarterback

Ty Simpson is the only option for this spot, but his decision to declare was a bit puzzling regardless. He's just a first-year starter, and he ended the 2025 season playing some of his worst football after a hot start. There were rumors that Alabama didn't want him back, but Simpson himself confirmed he had transfer options. Ultimately, he didn't want to "tarnish" his Alabama legacy. However, another year of tape could've cleared up many of the question marks

Running Back

Dylan Devezin is one of three Notre Dame running backs to declare early for this year's draft, and if you're not familiar with him, don't feel bad. Devezin did not record a carry in his three-year collegiate career. He was supposed to have a bigger role this past season, but he appeared in just one game due to injury. Understandably, he didn't want to take the chance of getting hurt again, but transferring somewhere and putting up some rushing production would've done a lot for his stock.

Wide Receiver

There's no doubt that Georgia's **Zachariah Branch** is a talented athlete. He's got plenty of speed, quickness, and YAC ability to be an effective slot receiver at the NFL level. That said, he relied on manufactured touches way too much at Georgia. That was a product of his route-running and Georgia's offense not being the most explosive. Branch could've transferred somewhere he could show more traditional receiver skills. Right now, it's hard to project him as anything other than a gadget player.

Tight End

Jack Endries has enough talent to be a Day 2 pick this year. That said, if he went back to school and showed improved blocking, there would be a chance for him to be a first-round pick. Endries has the athletic profile of a dynamic receiving threat, but he lacks the strength and frame to be an impact blocker. Staying for another year at Texas and developing alongside Arch Manning could've done him some good.

Offensive Line

Brian Parker has two years of starting experience for Duke on his resume, but his tape is still pretty inconsistent. He played left tackle for the Blue Devils, but he's probably a projection to the interior at the NFL level. He took guard and center snaps at the Shrine Bowl, so perhaps returning for another season and proving he could play on the interior would have been beneficial.

Interior Defensive Line

There are just three defensive tackles on this year's list: McDonald, Georgia's Christen Miller,

LOGAN FANO

and Clemson's Peter Woods. Frankly, we agree with all three of their decisions to enter this year's draft. All of them should go within the first 40 picks, while Woods and McDonald seem like consensus first-rounders.

Edge Rusher

Logan Fano is the "other" Utah player named Fano who declared early for this year's draft. His brother, Spencer, is expected to go in the first round, while Logan is nowhere to be found in most mock drafts. Logan had a career-high five sacks this past season, but he could've gone back to school and solidified himself in the top 100. As it stands, he might not go in that range.

Linebacker

Missouri's **Josiah Trotter** is a good player, and there's a good chance he goes on Day 2. However, another year of good tape, where he showed some improvements in coverage, could've pushed him into the top 40 next season. His run defending skills are NFL-ready, but other parts of his game would've benefited from another season.

Cornerback

We like all of the cornerbacks' decisions to declare, but Tennessee's **Colton Hood** could've benefited the most from returning to school. He's just a redshirt sophomore and has only one year of consistent starting experience. He has a chance to be a first-round pick, so it's hard to knock him too much, but more than anyone else, he could've made himself into a no-doubt first-round pick with another year of college.

Safety

Jalon Kilgore got better as the season progressed, but he struggled in coverage at different points of the season. He's got nice versatility and size for a safety, so there's definitely a chance he could have risen up boards with a more stable final season. Given South Carolina's poor showing in 2025, it's not shocking he didn't want to return; however, he would've benefited from a transfer.

NUMBERS GAME

The NFL announced 63 underclassmen would be entering the draft on the original deadline of Jan. 15. However, multiple Indiana and Miami players were given an extra week because of playing in the National Championship. That added more names to the list, bringing it to 67. That is a decrease from the 70 who declared last year. This is yet another example of how NIL and the transfer portal are changing the NFL, not just college football.

Year	Players	Year	Players
2026	67	2016	107
2025	70	2015	84
2024	58	2014	98
2023	82	2013	73
2022	100	2012	65
2021	128	2011	56
2020	115	2010	53
2019	135	2009	46
2018	119	2008	53
2017	103	2007	40

UNDERCLASSMEN WHO DECLARED FOR 2026 NFL DRAFT

Name	Pos.	School	Year
Fernando Mendoza	QB	Indiana	Rs Jr.
Ty Simpson	QB	Alabama	Rs Jr.
Dylan Devezin	RB	Notre Dame	Rs Jr.
Emmett Johnson	RB	Nebraska	Jr.
Jeremiyah Love	RB	Notre Dame	Jr.
Jadarian Price	RB	Notre Dame	Jr.
Aaron Anderson	WR	LSU	Rs Jr.
Denzel Boston	WR	Washington	Jr.
Zachariah Branch	WR	Georgia	Jr.
Chris Brazzell II	WR	Tennessee	Rs Jr.
K.C. Concepcion	WR	Texas A&M	Jr.
Omar Cooper Jr.	WR	Indiana	Rs Jr.
Ja'Kobi Lane	WR	USC	Jr.
Makai Lemon	WR	USC	Jr.
Carnell Tate	WR	Ohio State	Jr.
Jordyn Tyson	WR	Arizona State	Rs Jr.
Antonio Williams	WR	Clemson	Rs Jr.
Jack Endries	TE	Texas	Jr.
Max Klare	TE	Ohio State	Jr.
Marlin Klein	TE	Michigan	Rs Jr.
Kenyon Sadiq	TE	Oregon	Jr.
Jude Bowry	OT	Boston College	Rs Jr.
Kage Casey	OT	Boise State	Rs Jr.
Spencer Fano	OT	Utah	Jr.
Monroe Freeling	OT	Georgia	Jr.
Caleb Lomu	OT	Utah	Rs So.
Francis Mauigoa	OT	Miami	Jr.
Brian Parker II	OT	Duke	Rs Jr.
Kadyn Proctor	OT	Alabama	Jr.
Aamil Wagner	OT	Notre Dame	Jr.
Chase Bisontis	G	Texas A&M	Jr.
Jalen Farmer	G	Kentucky	Jr.
Olaivavega Ioane	G	Penn State	Rs Jr.
Billy Schrauth	G	Notre Dame	Jr.
Parker Brailsford	C	Alabama	Rs Jr.
Connor Lew	C	Auburn	Jr.
Rueben Bain Jr.	DE	Miami	Jr
Logan Fano	DE	Utah	Rs Jr.
Keldric Faulk	DE	Auburn	Jr.
T.J. Parker	DE	Clemson	Jr.
Wesley Williams	DE	Duke	Rs Jr.
Kayden McDonald	DT	Ohio State	Jr.
Christen Miller	DT	Georgia	Rs Jr.
Peter Woods	DT	Clemson	Jr.
C.J. Allen	LB	Georgia	Jr
Anthony Hill Jr.	LB	Texas	Jr.
Kyle Louis	LB	Pittsburgh	Rs Jr.
Harold Perkins Jr.	LB	LSU	Rs Jr.
Arvell Reese	LB	Ohio State	Jr.
Jimmy Rolder	LB	Michigan	Rs. Jr.
Josiah Trotter	LB	Missouri	Rs So.
Taurean York	LB	Texas A&M	Jr.
Keith Abney II	CB	Arizona State	Jr.
Brandon Cisse	CB	South Carolina	Jr
Charles Du	CB	Notre Dame	Rs Jr.
Colton Hood	CB	Tennessee	Rs So.
Jermod McCoy	CB	Tennessee	Jr.
Malik Muhammad	CB	Texas	Jr.
D'Angelo Ponds	CB	Indiana	Jr.
Avieon Terrell	CB	Clemson	Jr.
Collin Wright	CB	Stanford	Rs Jr.
Caleb Downs	S	Ohio State	Jr.
Jalon Kilgore	S	South Carolina	Jr.
Kamari Ramsey	S	USC	Rs Jr.
Genesis Smith	S	Arizona	Jr.
Dillon Thieneman	S	Oregon	Jr.
Ryan Eckley	P	Michigan State	Rs Jr.

DRAFT LISTS by Dante Collinelli

10 Prospects Underrated by the Media

1. Genesis Smith, S, Arizona
2. Treydan Stukes, CB/S, Arizona
3. Keith Abney II, CB, Arizona State
4. Jalen Farmer, IOL, Kentucky
5. Jude Bowry, OT, Boston College
6. Emmanuel Pregnon, IOL, Oregon
7. Davison Igbinosun, CB, Ohio State
8. Sam Roush, TE, Stanford
9. Oscar Delp, TE, Georgia
10. Jonah Coleman, RB, Washington

10 Prospects Overrated by the Media

1. Gennings Dunker, IOL, Iowa
2. Jake Slaughter, IOL, Florida
3. Eli Stowers, TE, Vanderbilt
4. Michael Trigg, TE, Baylor
5. Chris Bell, WR, Louisville
6. Chris Brazzell II, WR, Tennessee
7. Zachariah Branch, WR, Georgia
8. Romello Height, EDGE, Texas Tech
9. L.T. Overton, EDGE, Alabama
10. Will Lee III, CB, Texas A&M

MALACHI FIELDS

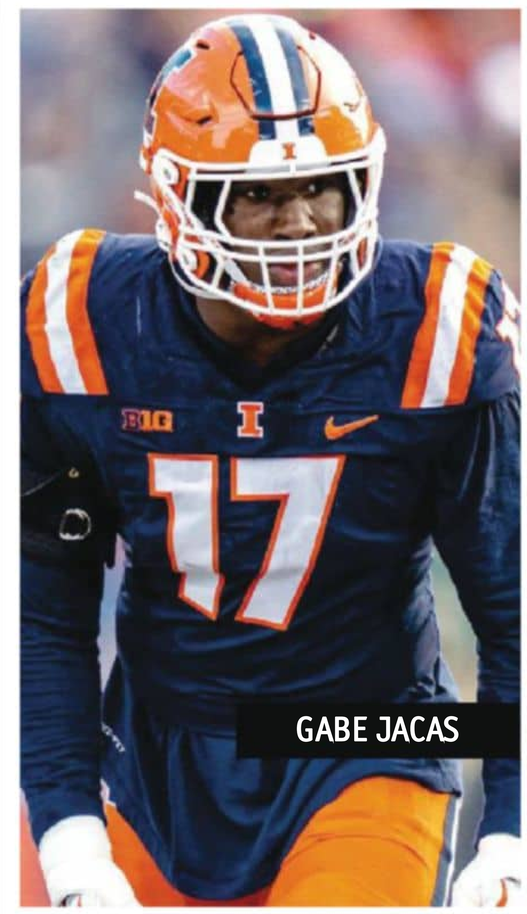
10 Prospects Who Would've Benefitted from More Film

1. Ty Simpson, QB, Alabama
2. Keldric Faulk, EDGE, Auburn
3. Colton Hood, CB, Tennessee
4. Caleb Lomu, OT, Utah
5. Ja'Kobi Lane, WR, USC
6. Zachariah Branch, WR, Georgia
7. Jack Endries, TE, Texas
8. Jalon Kilgore, S, South Carolina
9. Josiah Trotter, LB, Missouri
10. Brian Parker II, OL, Duke

10 NFL Combine Standouts

1. Caleb Banks, IDL, Florida
2. Zane Durant, IDL, Penn State
3. Malachi Lawrence, EDGE, Central Florida
4. Sonny Styles, LB, Ohio State
5. Dillon Thieneman, S, Oregon
6. Kenyon Sadiq, TE, Oregon
7. Eli Stowers, TE, Vanderbilt
8. Deion Burks, WR, Oklahoma
9. Taylen Green, QB, Arkansas
10. Monroe Freeling, OT, Georgia

DONTAY CORLEONE


GABE JACAS

10 Risers from the 2025 Season

1. Emmett Johnson, RB, Nebraska
2. Monroe Freeling, OT, Georgia
3. Kayden McDonald, IDL, Ohio State
4. Lee Hunter, IDL, Texas Tech
5. Omar Cooper Jr., WR, Indiana
6. Akheem Mesidor, EDGE, Miami
7. Colton Hood, CB, Tennessee
8. Romello Height, EDGE, Texas Tech
9. Emmanuel McNeil-Warren, S, Toledo
10. Mansoor Delane, CB, LSU

10 Senior Bowl Standouts

1. Max Iheanachor, OT, Arizona State
2. Gabe Jacas, EDGE, Illinois
3. Zion Young, EDGE, Missouri
4. Malachi Fields, WR, Notre Dame
5. Kyle Louis, LB/S, Pittsburgh
6. Bud Clark, S, TCU
7. Sam Hecht, IOL, Kansas State
8. Jalen Farmer, IOL, Kentucky
9. Caleb Banks, IDL, Florida
10. Gracen Halton, IDL, Oklahoma

10 'Safest' Players Outside of Round One

1. Omar Cooper Jr., WR, Indiana
2. Max Klare, TE, Ohio State
3. Emmanuel Pregnon, IOL, Oregon
4. Dontay Corleone, IDL, Cincinnati
5. Gabe Jacas, EDGE, Illinois
6. Zion Young, EDGE, Missouri
7. A.J. Haulcy, S, LSU
8. Dillon Thieneman, S, Oregon
9. Kamari Ramsey, S, USC
10. Domonique Orange, IDL, Iowa State

10 Riskiest Players In the Top 50

1. Caleb Lomu, OT, Utah
2. Max Iheanachor, OT, Arizona State
3. Kadyn Proctor, OT, Alabama
4. Chris Bell, WR, Louisville
5. Jordyn Tyson, WR, Arizona State
6. Caleb Banks, IDL, Florida
7. Cashius Howell, EDGE, Texas A&M
8. Brandon Cisse, CB, South Carolina
9. Colton Hood, CB, Tennessee
10. Connor Lew, IOL, Auburn

10 Most Versatile Players

1. Caleb Downs, S, Ohio State
2. Arvell Reese, LB, Ohio State
3. Treydan Stukes, CB/S, Arizona
4. Francis Mauigoa, OT, Miami
5. Avieon Terrell, CB, Clemson
6. Makai Lemon, WR, USC
7. Rueben Bain Jr., EDGE, Miami
8. Emmanuel McNeil-Warren, S, Toledo
9. Kenyon Sadiq, TE, Oregon
10. Dillon Thieneman, S, Oregon

BUFFALO BILLS

DRAFT DITTY: The Bills' first five picks last year were on the defensive side of the ball. Over the past two drafts, Buffalo has made seven picks within the top 110 overall. All but one has been on defense.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 26th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Brandon Beane (2017)

Head Coach
Joe Brady (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Pete Carmichael (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Jim Leonhard (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Jeff Rodgers (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 41 (T-11th most)
Average 1st pick: 28.2 (25th)
Offensive picks: 19 (T-16th)
Defensive picks: 21 (T-9th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
TE Dalton Kincaid
25th overall, 2023
Highest pick on defense:
CB Kaiir Elam
23rd overall, 2022
Highest specialist pick:
P Matt Araiza
180th overall, 2022

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 12-5, 2nd AFC East

Season Summary: Reigning MVP Josh Allen teamed up with this year's rushing leader James Cook to lead Buffalo to the playoffs for the seventh straight season; however, the Bills made an early exit for the seventh straight time, resulting in the dismissal of coach Sean McDermott after nine seasons.

Offseason Overview: Buffalo promoted offensive coordinator Joe Brady to head coach, and brought in all new coordinators. The Bills upgraded at wide receiver by trading for D.J. Moore, and also added EDGE Bradley Chubb and re-signed C Connor McGovern. On defense, they inked CB Dee Alford and safeties C.J. Gardner-Johnson and Geno Stone. The Bills cut WR Curtis Samuel, traded CB Taron Johnson (Raiders) and lost QB Mitch Trubisky (Titans), OG David Edwards (Saints), FB Reggie Gilliam (Patriots) and LB A.J. Epenesa (Browns) in free agency. EDGE Joey Bosa, DT DaQuan Jones, DT Larry Ogunjobi, LB Matt Milano, SAF Taylor Rapp, CB Tre'Davious White and WR Gabe Davis were still unsigned at press time.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 26th overall
Round 3: 91st
Round 4: 126th
Round 5: 165th (from CHI in Moore deal)
Round 5: 168th
Round 6: 182nd (from LV in the Johnson deal)
Round 7: 220th (from NYJ in Brandon Codrington deal)
Round 2: 60th (traded to CHI in Moore deal)
Round 6: 208th (traded to NYJ in Codrington deal)
Round 7: 228th (acquired from DAL in Kaair Elam deal; traded to LV in Johnson deal)
Round 7: 242nd (traded to CLE in Amari Cooper deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Emmanuel McNeil-Warren, S, Toledo. For years, Buffalo had a fantastic safety pairing, but that has fallen by the wayside of late. McNeil-Warren is best near the line of scrimmage and could help both the run and pass defense.

Three-round strategy: Even after trading for Moore, the Bills could look for another perimeter playmaker. But, for the most part, Buffalo should be concentrating on all levels of its defense with their early picks, especially linebacker.

Day 3 depth: The Bills added Chubb, but more edge help is needed. The secondary, especially safety, could also use reinforcements and a young interior offensive lineman makes sense.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	376.3 4TH	159.6 1ST	216.6 15TH	28.3 T-4TH	44.8% 4TH	8.1% 21ST	19 15TH
DEFENSE	293.1 7TH	136.2 28TH	156.9 1ST	21.5 12TH	41.4% 24TH	7.8% 14TH	20 15TH

MIAMI DOLPHINS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past two drafts, all four of Miami's picks in the first two rounds have been used on linemen on either side of the ball.

TOTAL PICKS: 11

TOP PICK: 11th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Jon-Eric Sullivan (2026)

Head Coach
Jeff Hafley (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Bobby Slowik (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Sean Duggan (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Chris Tabor (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 30 (32nd most)

Average 1st pick: 38.6 (T-29)

Offensive picks: 17 (T-17th)

Defensive picks: 13 (32nd)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
WR Jaylen Waddle,
6th overall, 2021

Highest pick on defense:
DT Kenneth Grant
13th overall, 2025

Last specialist pick:
LS Blake Ferguson
185th overall, 2020

SEASON SNAPSHOT

2025 Record: 7-10, 3rd AFC East

Season Summary: Even though Devon Achane was a bright spot as the fifth-leading rusher and posted the league's highest yards per carry, Miami generated nothing in the passing game and lost six of its first seven games. Jordyn Brooks led the NFL in tackles (183), but the tumultuous season cost GM Chris Grier and coach Mike McDaniel their jobs.

Offseason Overview: Under a new coach and GM, the Dolphins wasted no time entering their rebuild. The team released WR Tyreek Hill, EDGE Bradley Chubb (Bills), OG James Daniels and WR Nick Westbrook-Ikhine (Colts) to clear $56 million in cap space. Miami then cut QB Tua Tagovailoa (Falcons) and traded WR Jaylen Waddle (Broncos) and SAF Minkah Fitzpatrick (Jets) for draft capital. The team's key acquisition is QB Malik Willis, who inked a three-year deal. The rest of Miami's moves involved filling out the roster with players at or near the veteran minimum.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 11th overall
Round 1: 30th (from DEN in Waddle deal)
Round 2: 43rd
Round 3: 75th
Round 3: 87th (from PHI for Jaelan Phillips)
Round 3: 90th (from HOU, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 3: 94th (from DEN in Waddle deal)
Round 4: 130th (from DEN in Waddle deal)
Round 5: 151st
Round 7: 227th
Round 7: 238th (from NYJ for Fitzpatrick)
Round 4: 111th (traded to DEN in Waddle deal)
Round 6: 192nd (traded to NYG in Darren Waller deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Mansoor Delane, CB, LSU. Miami has a ton of draft picks, but also a ton of needs. Starting with a top cornerback prospect such as Delane is as good of a place to start as any.

Three-round strategy: This is a rebuilding team — to say the least — and the Dolphins shouldn't turn their nose up at a difference maker at nearly any position. But the defense is more needy than the offense, and they have seven picks to work with in the draft's first two days.

Day 3 depth: Several wide receivers certainly should be considered, but for the most part, Miami should keep loading up on defense on Day 3. Tight end is also a problem area, though. This might be the league's weakest roster entering April.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	300.7 26TH	120.2 13TH	180.5 25TH	20.4 25TH	34.9% 27TH	7.9% 19TH	24 T-27TH
DEFENSE	348.8 22ND	132.4 26TH	216.4 18TH	24.9 24TH	39.9% 17TH	7.6% 16TH	20 T-15TH

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past four drafts, New England has selected 10 players in Round 4. In 2024, all five of the Patriots' first picks were on offensive players. In 2025, all four of the Patriots' first picks were offensive players.

TOTAL PICKS: 11

TOP PICK: 31st

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Eliot Wolf (2024)

Head Coach
Mike Vrabel (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Josh McDaniels (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Terrell Williams (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Jeremy Springer (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 49 (2nd most)

Average 1st pick: 13.6 (7th)

Offensive picks: 28 (1st)

Defensive picks: 17 (T-26th)

Specialist picks: 4 (1st)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Drake Maye
3rd overall, 2024

Highest pick on defense:
CB Christian Gonzalez
17th overall, 2023

Highest specialist pick:
K Chad Ryland
112th overall, 2023

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 14-3, 1st AFC East

Season Summary: Second-year quarterback Drake Maye led the NFL in completion percentage (72.0) and finished runner-up in MVP voting while guiding the Patriots to the Super Bowl. Coach Mike Vrabel and his staff pushed all the right buttons in their first season in New England, taking a 4-13 team from worst to first in the AFC East, earning Vrabel NFL AP Coach of the Year honors.

Offseason Overview: New England gave Maye new weapons in WR Romeo Doubs and TE Julian Hill, while cutting WR Stefon Diggs. The Patriots gave Maye some added protection in OG Alijah Vera-Tucker and FB Reggie Gilliam. On defense, the Patriots signed EDGE Dre'Mont Jones to replace K'Lavon Chaisson (Commanders), SAF Kevin Byard, LB K.J. Britt, SAF Mike Brown and CB Kindle Vildor. Among the team's free-agent losses are Khyiris Tonga (Chiefs), SAF Jaylinn Hawkins (Ravens), LT Vederian Lowe (49ers) and TE Austin Hooper (Falcons). In addition, the Patriots traded C Garrett Bradbury to the Bears to clear cap space.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 31st overall
Round 2: 63rd
Round 3: 95th
Round 4: 125th (from KC, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 4: 131st
Round 5: 171st
Round 6: 191st (from KC for Josh Uche)
Round 6: 198th (from SF in Keion White deal)
Round 6: 202nd (from PIT in Kyle Dugger deal)
Round 6: 212th
Round 7: 247th

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Malachi Lawrence, EDGE, Central Florida. The Patriots could go a lot of directions, but Lawrence, with his blend of aggression and athletic ability, looks like a Vrabel type of defender.

Three-round strategy: For a Super Bowl team, New England's roster still could use a lot of reinforcements. They added Vera-Tucker and Doubs, but New England is still light up front and at wide out. More edge pass rush also could be a priority.

Day 3 depth: This might be a good spot to draft a developmental tight end. Kevin Byard is only a short-term fix at safety as well. Day three could be more about defense for the Patriots, and nose tackle could be one of the positions in play.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	379.4 3RD	128.9 6TH	250.5 4TH	28.8 2ND	42.9% 6TH	9.6% 26TH	16 T-9TH
DEFENSE	295.2 8TH	101.7 6TH	193.5 9TH	18.8 4TH	38.5% 12TH	6.6% 20TH	19 T-19TH

NEW YORK JETS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2016, the Jets have selected 13 players in the first round. Seven of those players were on defense and six on offense, including two quarterbacks (Sam Darnold and Zach Wilson) selected in the top three picks overall.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 2nd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Darren Mougey (2025)

Head Coach
Aaron Glenn (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Frank Reich (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Brian Duker (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Chris Banjo (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 38 (T-21st most)
Average first pick: 7.8 (1st)
Offensive picks: 20 (T-11th)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
QB Zach Wilson
2nd overall, 2021
Highest pick on defense:
CB Sauce Gardner
4th overall, 2022
Last specialist pick:
P Braden Mann
191st overall, 2020

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 3-14, 4th AFC East

Season Summary: Aaron Glenn's coaching debut did not go as planned. The Justin Fields experiment failed under center, and the Jets got gashed on defense while starting the season 0-7. New York made history as the only team to record zero interceptions in a season, and missed the playoffs for the 15th consecutive year. The Jets fired their offensive and defensive coordinators after the season.

Offseason Overview: The Jets shipped out another former first rounder (EDGE Jermaine Johnson) in February in exchange for DT T'Vondre Sweat. They also acquired SAF Minkah Fitzpatrick and QB Geno Smith via trade, while shipping out QB Justin Fields (Chiefs). New York beefed up its defense with EDGE Joseph Ossai, LB Demario Davis, EDGE Kingsley Enagbare, SAF Dane Belton and CB Nahshon Wright. The Jets placed the franchise tag on RB Breece Hall, while moving on from OG Alijah Vera-Tucker (Patriots), OG John Simpson (Ravens), LB Quincy Williams (Browns) and EDGE Micheal Clemons (Colts).

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 2nd overall
Round 1: 16th (from IND in the Sauce Gardner deal)
Round 2: 33rd
Round 2: 44th (from DAL in Williams deal)
Round 4: 103rd
Round 4: 140th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 179th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 228th (from LV in Geno Smith deal)
Round 7: 242nd (from CLE in Jowon Briggs deal)
Round 3: 68th (traded to PHI for Haason Reddick)
Round 5: 142nd (traded to BAL, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 6: 182nd (traded to CLE in Briggs deal)
Round 6: 194th (from BAL, traded to TEN in Jarvis Brownlee deal)
Round 6: 208th (from BUF, traded to LV in Smith deal)

Round 6: 211th (from DEN, traded to MIN in Harrison Phillips deal)
Round 7: 220th (traded to BUF in Brandon Codrington deal)
Round 7: 238th (from TEN, traded to MIA for Fitzpatrick)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Arvell Reese, Edge, Ohio State. The Jets have an abundance of premium draft picks over the next two years. They just grab what might be the best overall prospect in the draft and then go from there.

Three-round strategy: New York added a lot of defensive starters in free agency, but most are older players. Building for the future on that side of the ball is necessary, but guard and wide receiver is also very lean right now.

Day 3 depth: The Jets aren't short on team needs and shouldn't be picky when adding late talent. There really isn't a spot they should ignore if a good player is on the board. Quarterback is obviously a position New York must consider at any point of this draft.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	263.6 **29TH**	123.3 **T-10TH**	140.3 **32ND**	17.6 **29TH**	34.9% **26TH**	12.2% **30TH**	23 **T-21ST**
DEFENSE	355.6 **25TH**	139.5 **29TH**	216.1 **17TH**	29.6 **31ST**	37.35% **10TH**	5.1% **29TH**	4 **32ND**

BALTIMORE RAVENS

DRAFT DITTY: In 2023, the Ravens made just six draft picks. They have drafted more than six players in every year since 1999 except for 2023, 2009, and 2000. Last year they made 11 selections.

TOTAL PICKS: 11

TOP PICK: 14th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Eric DeCosta (2019)

Head Coach
Jesse Minter (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Declan Doyle (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Anthony Weaver (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Anthony Levine Sr. (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 45 (T-5th most)

Average 1st pick: 24.0 (22nd)

Offensive picks: 21 (10th)

Defensive picks: 22 (T-7th)

Specialist picks: 2 (T-2nd)

Highest pick on offense:
WR Zay Flowers
22nd overall, 2023

Highest pick on defense:
S Kyle Hamilton
14th overall, 2022

Highest specialist pick:
P Jordan Stout
130th overall, 2022

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 8-9, 2nd AFC North

Season Summary: Two-time MVP Lamar Jackson was limited to 13 games due to injuries, and Baltimore posted only its third losing season since 2008. Derrick Henry finished second in rushing yards (1,595) and rushing touchdowns (16), while Zay Flowers ranked seventh in receiving yards (1,211), but in the end the Ravens moved on from coach John Harbaugh after 18 years of service, and enter 2026 with a completely revamped staff.

Offseason Overview: One of biggest names in free agency was C Tyler Linderbaum, who left Baltimore to sign with the Raiders. The Ravens also lost TE Isaiah Likely (Giants) EDGE Dre'Mont Jones (Patriots), TE Charlie Kolar (Chargers) and SAF Alohi Gilman (Chiefs), while WR DeAndre Hopkins and EDGE Kyle Van Noy remain unsigned. Meanwhile, Baltimore welcomes in EDGE Trey Hendrickson, OG John Simpson, SAF Jaylinn Hawkins and CB Chidobe Awuzie.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 14th overall
Round 2: 45th
Round 3: 80th
Round 4: 115th
Round 5: 154th
Round 5: 162nd (from LAC in Odafe Oweh deal)
Round 5: 173rd (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 174th (compensatory pick)
Round 6: 211th (from PHI in Jaire Alexander deal)
Round 7: 250th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 253rd (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 142nd (from NYJ, traded to TEN for Dre'Mont Jones)
Round 6: 194th (traded to NYJ, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 7: 232nd (traded to LAR in Tre'Davious White deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Olaivavega Ioane, OG, Penn State. Baltimore needs a plug-and-play interior lineman like Ioane. He is a killer in the run game and could be a Ravens stalwart for years to come.

Three-round strategy: The Ravens absolutely must invest in the interior of their offensive line, particularly center. The draft also could tell us what Baltimore thinks of the health of Nnamdi Madubuike at the defensive tackle position. This could be a big-man draft for Baltimore.

Day 3 depth: The Ravens could look for more receiving weapons, at tight end or wide receiver, and finding a young complement to Henry should be a priority as is another cornerback. Even after signing Hendrickson, they might look for another edge.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	332.2 16TH	156.6 2ND	175.6 27TH	24.9 11TH	40.9% 13TH	10.7% 29TH	23 T-21ST
DEFENSE	354.5 24TH	106.6 10TH	247.9 30TH	23.4 18TH	37.8% 11TH	4.8% 31ST	20 T-15TH

CINCINNATI BENGALS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past four drafts, Cincinnati has made eight selections in the top 60 overall. Amarius Mims is the only offensive player selected of those eight.

TOTAL PICKS: 8

TOP PICK: 10th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Duke Tobin (1999)

Head Coach
Zac Taylor (2019)

Offensive Coordinator
Dan Pitcher (2024)

Defensive Coordinator
Al Golden (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Darrin Simmons (2013)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 40 (T-16th most)
Avg. 1st pick: 19.8 (T-15th)
Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)
Defensive picks: 21 (T-9th)
Specialist picks: 2 (T-2nd)
Highest pick on offense:
WR Ja'Marr Chase
5th overall, 2021
Highest pick on defense:
DE Shemar Stewart
17th overall, 2025
Highest specialist pick:
K Evan McPherson
149th overall, 2021

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 6-11, 3rd AFC North

Season Summary: For the first time since 2021, Cincinnati started 1-0. QB Joe Burrow suffered a toe injury in Week 2 and missed the next nine games — a span during which the Bengals went 1-8. They missed the playoffs for the third straight season, no thanks to a defense that surrendered more points than every team except the Dallas Cowboys and New York Jets in 2025.

Offseason Overview: The Bengals' big move was to bring in Boye Mafe to replace Trey Hendrickson (Ravens) and Joseph Ossai (Jets) on the defensive edge. Cincinnati also added SAF Bryan Cook and DL Jonathan Allen to its defense, while inking backup QB Josh Johnson. In addition to the edge rushers, the Bengals lost TE Noah Fant (Saints), SAF Geno Stone (Bills) and CB Cam Taylor-Britt (Colts) in free agency as well as backup QB Jake Browning. QB Joe Flacco is among the notable names still unsigned.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 10th overall
Round 2: 41st
Round 3: 72nd
Round 4: 110th
Round 6: 189th
Round 6: 199th (from CLE in Flacco deal)
Round 7: 221st (from DAL for Logan Wilson)
Round 7: 226th
Round 5: 149th (to CLE in Flacco deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Keldric Faulk, EDGE, Auburn. Cincinnati keeps going back to the well time and time again with early picks at the defensive end position. Faulk fits their profile well.

Three-round strategy: The Bengals have spent some resources on defense in free agency, but by no means should they slow down on that approach. Adding anything on that side of the ball would be wise, especially linebacker, for a unit that finished last or close to it in almost every major defensive category.

Day 3 depth: Maybe the Bengals grab a tight end in a deep class at that position. A backup running back also makes sense. But overall, the theme of this draft must be defense.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	329.2 **17TH**	93.6 **29TH**	235.6 **6TH**	24.4 **12TH**	43.4% **5TH**	5.6% **10TH**	24 **T-27TH**
DEFENSE	380.9 **31ST**	147.1 **32ND**	233.8 **26TH**	28.9 **30TH**	43.4% **28TH**	6.6% **23RD**	21 **T-10TH**

CLEVELAND BROWNS

DRAFT DITTY: Between the 2022 and 2024 draft classes, Cleveland's first selection has come at 65.3 overall. Not only did they make zero first round picks during that time, but they only made one choice in the second round as well.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 6th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Andrew Berry (2020)

Head Coach
Todd Monken (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Travis Switzer (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Mike Rutenberg (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Byron Storer (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 37 (T-23rd most)
Average 1st pick: 45.4 (31st)
Offensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
RB Quinshon Judkins
36th overall, 2025
Highest pick on defense:
DT Mason Graham
5th overall, 2025
Highest specialist pick:
K Cade York
124th overall, 2022

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 5-12, 4th AFC North

Season Summary: Despite their cellar-dwelling record, the Browns had some bright spots in 2025. Cleveland is now home to the AP Defensive Player of the Year (Myles Garrett, who set the NFL single-season sack record with 23.0 sacks) and AP Defensive Rookie of the Year (Carson Schwesinger). In the end, it wasn't enough to keep coach Kevin Stefanski his job.

Offseason Overview: The Browns' biggest shakeup came at offensive line, signing OG Zion Johnson and C Elgton Jenkins, while trading for OT Tytus Howard. They also re-signed OG Teven Jenkins, but cut OG Wyatt Teller (Texans), OT Jack Conklin and OT Cornelius Lucas. OG Joel Bitonio, OT Cam Robinson and C Ethan Pocic remain free agents. Other notable moves include signing LB Quincy Williams, DL Kalia Davis and EDGE A.J. Epenesa. EDGE Cam Thomas (Falcons) and RB Jerome Ford (Commanders) left in free agency. TE David Njoku was also cut, and has yet to sign elsewhere.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 6th overall
Round 1: 24th (from JAC, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 2: 39th
Round 3: 70th
Round 4: 107th
Round 5: 146th
Round 5: 149th (from CIN in Joe Flacco deal)
Round 6: 206th (from CHI in Joe Tryon-Shoyinka deal)
Round 7: 248th (from SEA in Nick Harris deal)
Round 5: 141st (from LV, traded to HOU for Tytus Howard)
Round 6: 188th (traded to SEA in Harris deal)
Round 6: 199th (from DET, traded to CIN in Flacco deal)
Round 7: 222nd (traded to DET in Za'Darius Smith deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Monroe Freeling, OT, Georgia. The Browns' offensive line got an offseason overall, but a pure left tackle such as Freeling could really tie that unit together.

Three-round strategy: The Browns have been active in adding offensive linemen, but more is always better at that position. Wide receiver is also a huge area of concern, and who is to say exactly what they plan to do at quarterback?

Day 3 depth: The Browns could reinforce an already strong defense, and getting younger on that side of the ball through later draft picks would be a logical approach. But mostly, the offense is what is needing the attention. Maybe they grab another tight end.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	262.1 **30TH**	97.0 **27TH**	165.1 **31ST**	16.4 **31ST**	33.6% **29TH**	9.1% **25TH**	25 **30TH**
DEFENSE	283.6 **4TH**	116.4 **16TH**	167.2 **3RD**	22.3 **14TH**	36.3% **T-7TH**	10.9% **3RD**	18 **22ND**

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

DRAFT DITTY: The Steelers have gone four straight drafts making exactly seven selections. Over their last 10 drafts, they have averaged 7.4 picks per class.

TOTAL PICKS: 12

TOP PICK: 21st

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Omar Khan (2022)

Head Coach
Mike McCarthy (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Brian Angelichio (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Patrick Graham (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Danny Crossman (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 37 (T-23rd most)
Average 1st pick: 19.8 (T-15th)
Offensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
OL Broderick Jones
14th overall, 2023
Highest pick on defense:
DT Derrick Harmon
21st overall, 2025
Highest specialist pick:
P Pressly Harvin III
254th overall, 2021

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 10-7, 1st AFC North

Season Summary: At age 42, QB Aaron Rodgers led the Steelers to a Week 18 victory over the Baltimore Ravens to clinch a playoff spot. However, their wild-card loss pushed Pittsburgh's postseason losing streak to a decade. When the dust settled, coach Mike Tomlin stepped down after 19 seasons.

Offseason Overview: The Steelers added some offensive firepower by trading for WR Michael Pittman and signing RB Rico Dowdle in free agency. In the trenches they signed C Ryan McCollum and C Brock Hoffman. Pittsburgh's prize on defense was CB Jamel Dean, and the team also added DL Sebastian Joseph-Day, SAF Jaquan Brisker and SAF Darnell Savage. Meanwhile the team parted ways with OG Isaac Seumalo (Cardinals), RB Kenneth Gainwell (Buccaneers) and CB James Pierre (Vikings). The Steelers cut TE Jonnu Smith, and at press time Smith, Rodgers and SAF Kyle Dugger had yet to sign deals.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 21st overall
Round 2: 53rd
Round 3: 76th (from DAL in George Pickens deal)
Round 3: 85th
Round 3: 99th (compensatory pick)
Round 4: 121st
Round 4: 135th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 161st
Round 6: 216th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 224th (from NE in Dugger deal)
Round 7: 230th (from IND for Pittman)
Round 7: 237th
Round 6: 202nd (to NE in Dugger deal)
Round 6: 214th (compensatory pick traded to IND for Pittman)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Makai Lemon, WR, USC. Under Mike McCarthy the Steelers will be a much heavier three-wide-receiver offense. This is a position they have to address aggressively to fit the new scheme.

Three-round strategy: The Steelers filled a lot of needs so far, but they will surely draft another wide receiver. The left side of their offensive line could also be a spot they attack. A Day 2 safety also shouldn't surprise anyone.

Day 3 depth: Pittsburgh has a wealth of picks, and could look to consolidate some of those either by trading up throughout the draft or trying to acquire picks for next year. Linebacker and cornerback are likely targets as the draft goes along.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	305.6 **25TH**	103.3 **26TH**	202.4 **22ND**	23.4 **15TH**	40.0% **15TH**	5.6% **11TH**	15 **T-4TH**
DEFENSE	356.9 **26TH**	113.1 **13TH**	243.9 **29TH**	22.4 **T-15TH**	41.5% **25TH**	7.8% **12TH**	27 **4TH**

HOUSTON TEXANS

DRAFT DITTY: Houston has made exactly nine selections in each of the past four drafts. They've also gone two years in a row without making a pick in the first round after making two first-round picks in the 2022 and 2023 drafts.

TOTAL PICKS: 8

TOP PICK: 28th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Nick Caserio (2021)

Head Coach
DeMeco Ryans (2023)

Offensive Coordinator
Nick Caley (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Matt Burke (2023)

Special Teams Coordinator
Frank Ross (2021)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 41 (T-11th most)
Average 1st pick: 29.6 (26th)
Offensive picks: 23 (T-4th)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
QB C.J. Stroud
2nd overall, 2023
Highest picks on defense:
LB Will Anderson/CB Derek Stingley Jr., 3rd, 2023/2022
Last specialist pick:
K Randy Bullock
161st overall, 2012

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 12-5, 2nd AFC South

Season Summary: The Texans stumbled to an 0-3 start, but rattled off nine straight victories to close out the regular season and secure their third consecutive postseason appearance. Fueled by a ferocious defense, led by AP Defensive Player of the Year runner-up Will Anderson, Houston advanced to the divisional round, falling to New England

Offseason Overview: Houston traded for RB David Montgomery to replace Joe Mixon and Nick Chubb, and added guards Braden Smith and Wyatt Teller to bolster its line, while also trading away OT Tytus Howard (Browns) and C Juice Scruggs (Lions). On defense, the Texans signed blue-chip safety Reed Blankenship, and also added DL Logan Hall and EDGE Dominique Robinson. However, they cut SAF Jimmie Ward, and lost DT Tim Settle (Commanders) and LB Christian Harris (Falcons) to free agency. EDGE Denico Autry, DL Mario Edwards, EDGE Derek Barnett and DL Foley Fatukasi also did not return. The Texans also lost WR Christian Kirk (49ers).

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 28th overall
Round 2: 38th (from WAS in Laremy Tunsil deal)
Round 2: 59th
Round 3: 69th (from NYG, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 4: 106th (from WAS in Laremy Tunsil deal)
Round 5: 141st (from CLE for Tytus Howard)
Round 5: 167th
Round 7: 243rd (from SF for Khalil Davis)
Round 3: 90th (traded to MIA, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 4: 128th (traded to DET in Montgomery deal)
Round 6: 198th (from MIN, traded back to MIN for Ed Ingram)
Round 6: 207th (traded to LAR in Ben Skowronek deal)
Round 7: 244th (traded to MIN in Cam Akers deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Caleb Lomu, OT, Utah. Houston has made a few trades this spring, but the Texans' biggest problem area from a year ago, offensive line, must remain their top offseason priority and that starts in the first round..

Three-round strategy: Houston has done a ton over the past two years to get its offensive line right, but they need to keep adding talent up front for sure. This defense is pretty loaded, but Houston might choose to snag another defensive tackle.

Day 3 depth: The Texans traded for Montgomery, but another running back might be wise. Maybe Houston also looks for value at the tight end position or at linebacker.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	327.0 18TH	108.9 22ND	218.1 14TH	23.8 13TH	37.2% 23RD	5.3% 8TH	12 2ND
DEFENSE	277.2 1ST	93.7 4TH	183.5 6TH	17.4 2ND	36.2% 6TH	8.7% 8TH	29 3RD

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past eight drafts, Indianapolis has made 14 selections in the second round, but just five in Round 1. They have made eight fifth-round picks over the past three years and have averaged 9.7 picks made over the past three classes.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 47th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Chris Ballard (2017)

Head Coach
Shane Steichen (2023)

Offensive Coordinator
Jim Bob Cooter (2023)

Defensive Coordinator
Lou Anarumo (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Brian Mason (2023)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 44 (8th most)

Average 1st pick: 21.4 (19th)

Offensive picks: 22 (T-8th)

Defensive picks: 22 (T-7th)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Anthony Richardson
4th overall, 2023

Highest pick on defense:
DL Laiatu Latu
15th overall, 2024

Last specialist pick:
K Pat McAfee
222nd overall, 2009

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 8-9, 3rd AFC South

Season Summary: Quarterback Daniel Jones was the surprise of the season in his first year in Indianapolis. He led the Colts to an 8-2 record entering the bye week. However, they never won another game, and Jones missed the final four contests with an Achilles injury. Indianapolis sat out of the postseason for the fifth straight year.

Offseason Overview: The Colts exercised the transition tag on Jones, then signed him to a two-year deal, and re-signed WR Alec Pierce to lock in two key pieces on offense. Pierce's was the second-largest free-agent contract of the spring, and it included the most guaranteed money ($84 million). They also re-signed TE Mo Alie-Cox, TE Andrew Ogletree and WR Laquon Treadwell, and added WR Nick Westbrook. Defensively, Indianapolis traded for CB Sauce Gardner mid-season, then signed edge rushers Arden Key and Micheal Clemons, along with LB Akeem Davis-Gaither and DL Derrick Nnadi. The Colts said goodbye to EDGE Kwity Paye (Raiders), SAF Nick Cross (Commanders), DL Neville Gallimore and EDGE Samson Ebukam. They traded away WR Michael Pittman (Steelers) and lost OL Braden Smith (Texans) in free agency.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 2: 47th overall
Round 3: 78th
Round 4: 113th
Round 5: 156th
Round 6: 214th (compensatory pick, from PIT, in Pittman deal)
Round 7: 249th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 254th (compensatory pick)
Round 1: 16th (traded to NYJ in Gardner deal)
Round 6: 196th (traded to MIN in Mekhi Blackmon deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: T.J. Parker, Edge, Clemson. Parker didn't have a great final season at Clemson, but one year ago, he was highly sought after. Without a first-round pick, Indianapolis hopes to get the version from 2024.

Three-round strategy: The Colts really need to find more edge pass rush. Their offensive line has also been depleted of late, and finding an offensive tackle on the second day would be ideal.

Day 3 depth: Other than cornerback, Indianapolis should be looking for all defensive positions as the draft goes on, linebacker in particular. Another running back wouldn't be a bad idea, either, and finding a third wideout also should be priority.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	345.9 9TH	118.1 17TH	227.8 9TH	27.4 8TH	42.6% 8TH	5.3% 7TH	23 T-21ST
DEFENSE	349.8 23RD	101.9 7TH	247.9 31ST	24.2 T-20TH	42.5% 26TH	6.2% 26TH	21 T-10TH

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past six drafts, Jacksonville has made an average of 9.8 selections per year. The Jaguars also made six selections in the fourth round over the past three years.

TOTAL PICKS: 11

TOP PICK: 56th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
James Gladstone (2025)

Head Coach
Liam Coen (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Grant Udinski (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Anthony Campanile (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Heath Farwell (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 47 (T-3rd most)

Average 1st pick: 10.8 (3rd)

Offensive picks: 20 (T-11th)

Defensive picks: 26 (T-1st)

Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Trevor Lawrence
1st overall, 2021

Highest pick on defense:
DE Travon Walker
1st overall, 2022

Highest specialist pick:
K Cam Little
212th overall, 2024

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 13-4, 1st AFC South

Season Summary: Rookie head coach Liam Coen, AP Coach of the Year runner-up, helped the Jaguars top a dozen wins for only the second time in the team's 31-year history and clinch its third division title in nine years. Former No. 1 overall pick Trevor Lawrence delivered his finest season to date and was an MVP finalist, leading Jacksonville to a 9-1 regular-season record from November to January. Defensively, the Jaguars set a franchise record with 22 interceptions.

Offseason Overview: Jacksonville remained quiet in free agency, adding only RB Chris Rodriguez and EDGE Dennis Gardeck. However, the Jaguars backfield lost RB Travis Etienne (Saints), and the defense lost LB Devin Lloyd (Panthers), CB Greg Newsome (Giants) and SAF Andrew Wingard (Cardinals). The team also cut TE Johnny Mundt, while EDGE Emmanuel Ogbah, WR Tim Patrick and DL Austin Johnson remained unsigned at press time.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 2: 56th overall
Round 3: 81st (from DET, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 3: 88th
Round 3: 100th (from DET, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 4: 124th
Round 5: 164th
Round 5: 166th (from PHI as part of Tank Bigsby deal)
Round 6: 203rd (from PHI as part of Bigsby deal)
Round 7: 233rd (from DET for K Riley Patterson)
Round 7: 240th
Round 7: 245th (from HOU for Christian Kirk)
Round 1: 24th (traded to CLE to select Travis Hunter)
Round 4: 117th (from MIN, traded to LV in Jakobi Meyers deal)
Round 6: 213th (traded to DET, 2025 Draft Day)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Lee Hunter, DT, Texas Tech. Unless there is a trade, Jacksonville will have to wait until Round 2 to make its first selection. A power player such as Hunter could really shore up the Jaguars' defensive line.

Three-round strategy: This is a pretty strong roster that is short on needs. Defensive tackle is a spot they could look at or another interior offensive lineman to add to the mix. Cornerback is another option, and they could use more juice off the edge.

Day 3 depth: Maybe Jacksonville looks to draft another running back. Linebacker also could be in play after the departure of Lloyd.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	337.4 **11TH**	115.1 **20TH**	222.3 **12TH**	27.9 **6TH**	39.2% **19TH**	7.3% **17TH**	18 **T-13TH**
DEFENSE	303.6 **11TH**	85.6 **1ST**	218.1 **21ST**	19.8 **8TH**	40.4% **20TH**	5.0% **30TH**	31 **2ND**

TENNESSEE TITANS

DRAFT DITTY: Of the Titans' most recent 15 first-round selections, only three have been used on defensive players.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 4th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Mike Borgonzi (2025)

Head Coach
Robert Saleh (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Brian Daboll (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Gus Bradley (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
John Fassel (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 39 (T-18th most)

Average 1st pick: 11.8 (6th)

Offensive picks: 23 (T-4th)

Defensive picks: 16 (T-30th)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Cam Ward
1st overall, 2025

Highest pick on defense:
DB Caleb Farley
22nd overall, 2021

Last specialist pick:
K Joe Wood
332nd overall, 1992

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 3-14, 4th AFC South

Season Summary: After a 1-5 start, Tennessee fired coach Brian Callahan in his second season at the helm. The Titans lost of 11 of their first 12 games, but the season will be remembered as No. 1 overall pick Cam Ward's debut. He started all 17 games and took every snap until a shoulder injury knocked him out of the season finale. His quarterback rating soared from September to December, in a season that showed more promise than production.

Offseason Overview: Robert Saleh will get his second crack as a head coach, and he brought along coordinators who all have head-coaching experience. The roster reshape began with the release of CB L'Jarius Sneed, and the team replaced him with Alontae Taylor, Cordale Flott and Joshua Williams. The Titans also signed DL John Franklin-Myers, LB Jake Martin and DL Jordan Elliott to their defense. On offense, they landed WR Wan'dale Robinson, and added TE Daniel Bellinger, C Austin Schlottmann and backup QB Mitchell Trubisky. Signing elsewhere were TE Chig Okonkwo (Commanders), EDGE Arden Key (Colts) and DL Sebastian Joseph-Day.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 4th overall
Round 2: 35th
Round 3: 66th
Round 4: 101st
Round 5: 142nd (from BAL for Dre'Mont Jones)
Round 5: 144th
Round 6: 184th
Round 6: 194th (from NYJ in Jarvis Brownlee deal)
Round 7: 225th (from DAL in Solomon Thomas deal)
Round 7: 218 (traded to DAL in Thomas deal)
Round 7: 238th (from LAC, traded to NYJ in Brownlee deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Caleb Downs, S, Ohio State. Tennessee still has a lot of needs, but the Titans could land Downs, possibly the best player in this draft. He would be hard to pass up.

Three-round strategy: Tennessee really needs to add more offensive weaponry. Any skill position talent upgrade would be extremely welcome. Edge rusher is also a very high priority, and the interior offensive line could use serious work.

Day 3 depth: The Titans did a lot this offseason, but are still at the point in which they should not ignore any area of their team in this rebuild. Linebacker and safety come to mind as areas to address later in the draft.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	259.6 31ST	93.5 30TH	166.1 30TH	16.7 30TH	31.9% 31ST	9.8% 27TH	19 T-15TH
DEFENSE	345.1 21ST	114.6 15TH	230.5 23RD	28.1 28TH	39.7% 16TH	8.2% 9TH	14 T-26TH

DENVER BRONCOS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past seven drafts, Denver has made 11 picks in the first or second round. Eight have been offensive players.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 62nd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
George Paton (2021)

Head Coach
Sean Payton (2023)

Offensive Coordinator
Davis Webb (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Vance Joseph (2023)

Special Teams Coordinator
Darren Rizzi (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 38 (T-21st most)

Average 1st pick: 33.6 (27th)

Offensive picks: 16 (T-29th)

Defensive picks: 21 (T-9th)

Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Bo Nix
12th overall, 2024

Highest pick on defense:
DB Patrick Surtain II
9th overall, 2021

Highest specialist pick:
P Jeremy Crawshaw
216th overall, 2025

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 14-3, 1st AFC West

Season Summary: The Broncos closed out the regular season on a 13-1 run and charged all the way to the No. 1 seed in the AFC. They lost in the Championship Game after starting quarterback Bo Nix injured his ankle during an overtime win in the Divisional Round. Denver rode an 11-game winning streak from September to December, fueled by its second-ranked defense, which was led by Nik Bonitto's 14 sacks, fifth-most in the NFL. Bonitto finished fourth in Defensive Player of the Year voting.

Offseason Overview: The Broncos have had a quiet free agency, but made some noise in landing star wide receiver Jaylen Waddle, trading their first-round pick to Miami as part of the package. Denver re-signed RB J.K. Dobbins, WR Lil'Jordan Humphrey and LB Alex Singleton. Losses include DL John Franklin-Myers (Titans) and S P.J. Locke (Cowboys). Denver also released LB Dre Greenlaw (49ers), one of last year's free-agent prizes.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 2: 62nd overall
Round 4: 108th (from NO in Devaughn Vele deal)
Round 4: 111th (from MIA in Waddle deal)
Round 5: 170th
Round 7: 246th
Round 7: 256th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 257th (compensatory pick)
Round 1: 30th (traded to MIA in Waddle deal)
Round 3: 94th (traded to MIA in Waddle deal)
Round 4: 130th (traded to MIA in Waddle deal)
Round 6: 211th (traded to NYJ for Franklin-Myers)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Eli Stowers, TE, Vanderbilt. The Broncos aren't scheduled to pick until late in the second round. Stowers is a moveable chess piece that coach Sean Payton could really scheme up.

Three-round strategy: Denver did very little in free agency, but after trading for Waddle, the Broncos addressed their biggest need: more offensive playmakers. They could look for a big-play tight end still, but front seven is probably the priority now.

Day 3 depth: As mentioned, reinforcing the front seven of the defense could come into play, particularly at defensive tackle and cornerback. This is one of the league's deepest rosters, and the Broncos are mostly a draft and develop team.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	342.6 10TH	118.7 16TH	223.9 11TH	23.6 14TH	41.2% 11TH	3.8% 1ST	17 T-11TH
DEFENSE	278.2 2ND	91.1 2ND	187.2 7TH	18.3 3RD	33.8% 2ND	11.5% 1ST	14 T-26TH

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the past seven draft classes, Kansas City has made 10 selections in the second round. They have also made exactly seven picks in three straight drafts.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 9th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Brett Veach (2017)

Head Coach
Andy Reid (2013)

Offensive Coordinator
Eric Bieniemy (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Steve Spagnuolo (2019)

Special Teams Coordinator
Dave Toub (2013)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 37 (T-23rd most)
Average 1st pick: 34.0 (28th)
Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)
Defensive picks: 20 (T-14th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
WR Xavier Worthy
28th overall, 2024
Highest pick on defense:
CB Trent McDuffie
21st overall, 2022
Last specialist pick:
K Ryan Succop
256th overall, 2009

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 6-11, 3rd AFC West

Season Summary: A rare down year for the Chiefs took an even worse tumble when Patrick Mahomes tore his ACL, Dec. 14. Kansas City was 6-7 entering that game, and went winless without its star quarterback. The Chiefs missed the playoffs for the first time since 2014, even though Travis Kelce became just the third tight end in history to eclipse 13,000 yards for his career.

Offseason Overview: Kansas City took care of its own by re-signing Kelce and WR Tyquan Thornton, as well as OG Mike Caliendo. The Chiefs added RB Kenneth Walker III, the most recent Super Bowl MVP, via free agency, and traded for QB Justin Fields. Their defense took a hit in free agency with CB Jaylen Watson (Rams), SAF Bryan Cook (Bengals), LB Leo Chenal (Commanders) EDGE Charles Omenihu (Commanders) and CB Joshua Williams (Titans) taking their talents elsewhere. The Chiefs also traded away CB Trent McDuffie (Rams) for a first-round pick this year. OT Jawaan Taylor, RB Kareem Hunt, WR JuJu Smith-Schuster and EDGE Michael Danna are without contracts.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 9th overall
Round 1: 29th (from LAR in McDuffie deal)
Round 2: 40th
Round 3: 74th
Round 4: 109th
Round 5: 148th
Round 5: 169th (from LAR in McDuffie deal)
Round 5: 176th (compensatory pick)
Round 6: 210th (from LAR in McDuffie deal)
Round 6: 191st (traded to NE for Joshua Uche)
Round 7: 225th (traded to DAL for Peyton Hendershot)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: David Bailey, EDGE, Texas Tech. The Chiefs would pounce on Bailey if he happened to fall this far. They plan on playing with more late-game leads next year and could use a closer like Bailey.

Three-round strategy: Kansas City's cornerbacks room got hit really hard this offseason. They could also use a strong route-running wide receiver.

Day 3 depth: Both defensive tackle and edge could be addressed at any point of the draft. The Chiefs also could be looking for an heir apparent to Kelce. This team has more needs than you might guess.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	320.6 20TH	106.6 25TH	214.1 16TH	21.3 21ST	37.4% 22ND	8.1% 20TH	15 T-4TH
DEFENSE	301.5 10TH	105.7 9TH	195.8 12TH	19.3 6TH	43.6% 29TH	6.9% 19TH	14 T-26TH

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS

DRAFT DITTY: Over the course of the last eight years, the Raiders have made 14 choices in the third round and 12 picks in the fourth round. They've also used their first selection on an offensive player in five of the past six drafts.

TOTAL PICKS: 10

TOP PICK: 1st

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
John Spytek (2025)

Head Coach
Klint Kubiak (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Andrew Janocko (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Rob Leonard (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Joe Decamillis (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 41 (T-11th most)
Average 1st pick: 26.6 (24th)
Offensive picks: 20 (T-11th)
Defensive picks: 21 (T-9th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
RB Ashton Jeanty
6th overall, 2025
Highest pick on defense:
LB Tyree Wilson
7th overall, 2023
Last specialist pick:
P Johnny Townsend
173rd overall, 2018

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 3-14, 4th AFC West

Season Summary: Las Vegas ranked in the bottom five in every major statistical category, and a last-place finish in the league resulted in the dismissal of coach Pete Carroll after one forgettable season. However, there was at least one bright spot in running back Ashton Jeanty, whose 1,321 yards from scrimmage broke the franchise rookie record. Since 2000, the team has only made five postseason appearances, and has not won a playoff game since 2002.

Offseason Overview: The Raiders have not been shy in free agency, resetting the market at center by signing Tyler Linderbaum, and also adding Spencer Burford to the offensive line. On defense, Las Vegas signed EDGE Kwity Paye, LB Quay Walker and LB Nakobe Dean, and also re-signed EDGE Malcolm Koonce and CB Eric Stokes. In addition, the team acquired CB Taron Johnson via trade from the Bills, and traded away QB Geno Smith (Jets). The Raiders released OG Alex Cappa, and did not retain QB Kenny Pickett (Panthers), OT Stone Forsythe (Panthers), K Daniel Carlson and LB Elandon Roberts.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 1st overall
Round 2: 36th
Round 3: 67th
Round 4: 102nd
Round 4: 117th (from JAC in Jakobi Meyers deal)
Round 4: 134th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 175th (compensatory pick)
Round 6: 185th
Round 6: 208th (from NYJ in Smith deal)
Round 7: 219th
Round 5: 141st (traded to CLE for Kenny Pickett)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Fernando Mendoza, QB, Indiana. It is probably time to chisel this one in stone. Mendoza will be the new face of the Las Vegas Raiders with the first overall selection.

Three-round strategy: The Raiders were aggressive in adding to their defense this offseason, but defensive tackle is still a huge area of concern. Cornerback also is quite weak. They also might look for a Maxx Crosby replacement.

Day 3 depth: Wide receiver could be in play at any point of this draft. The offensive line is in much better shape than it was last season, but Vegas shouldn't be done in the trenches.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	245.2 32ND	77.5 32ND	167.7 28TH	14.2 32ND	33.8% 28TH	12.4% 32ND	23 T-21ST
DEFENSE	317.8 14TH	116.8 17TH	201.0 14TH	25.4 25TH	46.3% 30TH	7.6% 16TH	16 T-23RD

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS

DRAFT DITTY: The Chargers have gone six straight years using their first pick on an offensive player.

TOTAL PICKS: 5

TOP PICK: 22nd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Joe Hortiz (2024)

Head Coach
Jim Harbaugh (2024)

Offensive Coordinator
Mike McDaniel (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Chris O'Leary (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Ryan Ficken (2022)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 42 (10th most)

Average 1st pick: 15.6 (10th)

Offensive picks: 23 (T-4th)

Defensive picks: 19 (T-18th)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
OL Joe Alt
5th overall, 2024

Highest pick on defense:
Asante Samuel Jr.
47th overall, 2021

Last specialist pick:
P Drew Kaser
179th overall, 2016

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 11-6, 2nd AFC West

Season Summary: For the second year in a row, the Chargers were handed a Wild-Card loss. Quarterback Justin Herbert, who was recovering from a hand surgery, was sacked six times in that contest behind an offensive front that was missing both starting tackles. Rashawn Slater was injured during training camp, and Joe Alt did not suit up after Week 9.

Offseason Overview: Herbert will have some new protection this season, as Los Angeles signed C Tyler Biadasz, OG Cole Strange and re-signed OT Trey Pipkins. The Chargers also added TE Charlie Kolar and FB Alec Ingold. They released OT Mekhi Becton, and parted ways with OG Zion Johnson (Browns), OG Jamaree Salyer (Dolphins), OT Austin Deculus (Titans), OG Trevor Penning and C Andre James. In addition, C Bradley Bozeman announced his retirement. RB Keaton Mitchell was signed from Baltimore, and the team retained QB Trey Lance and LS Josh Harris. Defensively, the Chargers added DL Dalvin Tomlinson and re-signed EDGE Khalil Mack, EDGE Del'Shawn Phillips and LB Denzel Perryman while losing EDGE Odafe Oweh (Commanders), CB Benjamin St-Juste (Packers), DL Da'shawn Hand (Falcons) and DL Otito Ogbonnia. RB Najee Harris and WR Keenan Allen remain free agents.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 22nd overall
Round 2: 55th
Round 3: 86th
Round 4: 123rd
Round 6: 204th
Round 5: 162nd *(traded to BAL in Odafe Oweh deal)*
Round 7: 238th *(traded to TEN for Elijah Molden)*

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Caleb Banks, DT, Florida. The Chargers covet big power players. There are some questions about Banks, but he also could easily be the best defensive tackle in this class by a wide margin before long.

Three-round strategy: The Chargers upgraded at center, but overall, they lost more than they gained in free agency on the interior of their offensive line. Bringing back Mack could really pay off, but a young edge rusher to learn from the veteran would be ideal.

Day 3 depth: Another linebacker could be in play for Los Angeles. The Chargers have had success drafting defensive backs on the third day and could look to continue that trend. Maybe another wide receiver as well.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	333.8 12TH	121.6 12TH	212.2 18TH	21.6 20TH	45.8 3RD	10.5% 28TH	21 T-17TH
DEFENSE	285.2 5TH	105.4 8TH	179.9 5TH	20.0 9TH	35.2% 5TH	8.9% 6TH	23 T-7TH

DALLAS COWBOYS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2015, the Cowboys have made 21 selections in either the first or second round. Only seven of those picks have been on offense.

TOTAL PICKS: 8

TOP PICK: 12th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Jerry Jones (1989)

Head Coach
Brian Schottenheimer (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Klayton Adams (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Christian Parker (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Nick Sorensen (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 45 (T-5th most)

Average 1st pick: 20.6 (17th)

Offensive picks: 19 (T-16th)

Defensive picks: 26 (T-1st)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
OL Tyler Booker
12th overall, 2025

Highest pick on defense:
LB Micah Parsons
12th overall, 2021

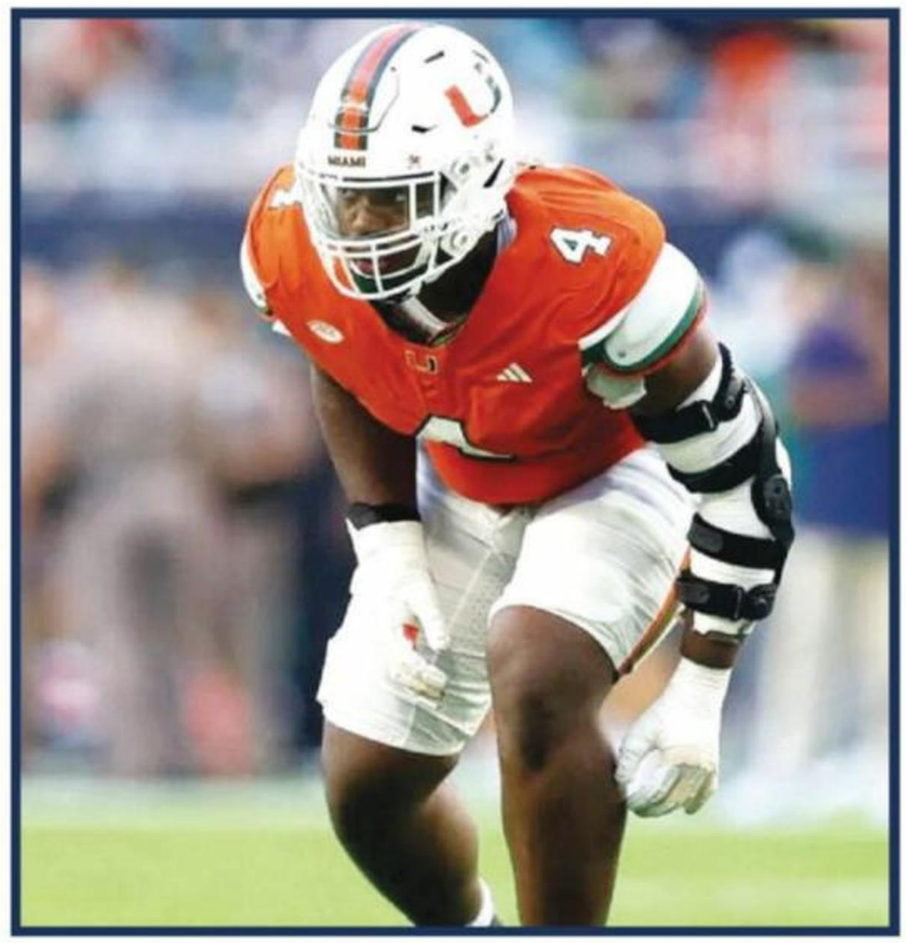
Last specialist pick:
K David Buehler
172nd overall, 2009

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 7-9-1, 2nd NFC West

Season Summary: The Cowboys entered December with a 6-5-1 record and a path to the playoffs. Instead, Dallas dropped four of its final five games, surrendering at least 34 points in each loss to finish dead last in points allowed. Defensive coordinator Matt Eberflus was shown the door as Dallas missed the playoffs for the second year in a row, the first under coach Brian Schottenheimer.

Offseason Overview: The Cowboys did their best to keep the offense intact, re-signing RB Javonte Williams and giving WR George Pickens the franchise tag. They also signed QB Sam Howell and C Matt Hennessy. The defense is another story. Dallas acquired EDGE Rashan Gary from Green Bay, and traded away DT Osa Odighizuwa (49ers) and LB Solomon Thomas (Titans). The team signed a pair of safeties, Jalen Thompson and P.J. Locke, and added CB Decobie Durant, DL Otito Ogbonnia, EDGE Sam Williams and EDGE Tyrus Wheat. Among those leaving Dallas are LB Logan Wilson, LB Kenneth Murray, S Donovan Wilson, EDGE Dante Fowler Jr., and EDGE Jadeveon Clowney.



SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 12th overall
Round 1: 20th (from GB in Micah Parsons deal)
Round 3: 92nd (from SF for Odighizuwa)
Round 4: 112th
Round 5: 152nd
Round 5: 177th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 180th (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 218th (from TEN
Round 2: 44th (traded to NYJ in Quinnen Williams deal)
Round 3: 76th (traded to PIT in George Pickens deal)
Round 6: 193rd (traded to NYG in Jordan Phillips deal)
Round 7: 228th (traded to BUF in Kaiir Elam deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Rueben Bain Jr., EDGE, Miami. The Cowboys could be a surprising contender next season if they can improve their defense. While he does have unusually short arms, Bain should be an immediate contributor with his style of play.

Three-round strategy: This draft should be all about defense for Dallas. Inside linebacker is extremely weak at this point, and the Cowboys could even double down at this position. Cornerback and edge rusher absolutely need to be addressed as well.

Day 3 depth: The Cowboys should stick with defensive drafting on Day 3. Offensive line depth would also make sense. And maybe another running back.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	391.9 2ND	125.6 9TH	266.3 2ND	27.7 7TH	41.2% 12TH	5.0% 6TH	21 T-17TH
DEFENSE	377.0 30TH	125.5 23RD	251.5 32ND	30.1 32ND	47.3% 32ND	6.3% 25TH	12 30TH

NEW YORK GIANTS

DRAFT DITTY: In 1984, New York selected Carl Banks third overall. Since then, they haven't drafted a linebacker in the first round. The Giants have made 10 picks in the top 13 overall since 2014. This year they own the fifth overall selection.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 5th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Joe Schoen (2022)

Head Coach
John Harbaugh (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Matt Nagy (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Dennard Wilson (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Chris Horton (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 37 (T-23rd most)
Average 1st pick: 11.6 (5th)
Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)
Defensive picks: 20 (T-14th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
WR Malik Nabers
6th overall, 2024
Highest pick on defense:
EDGE Abdul Carter
3rd overall, 2025
Last specialist pick:
P Matt Dodge
221st overall, 2010

STATUS REPORT

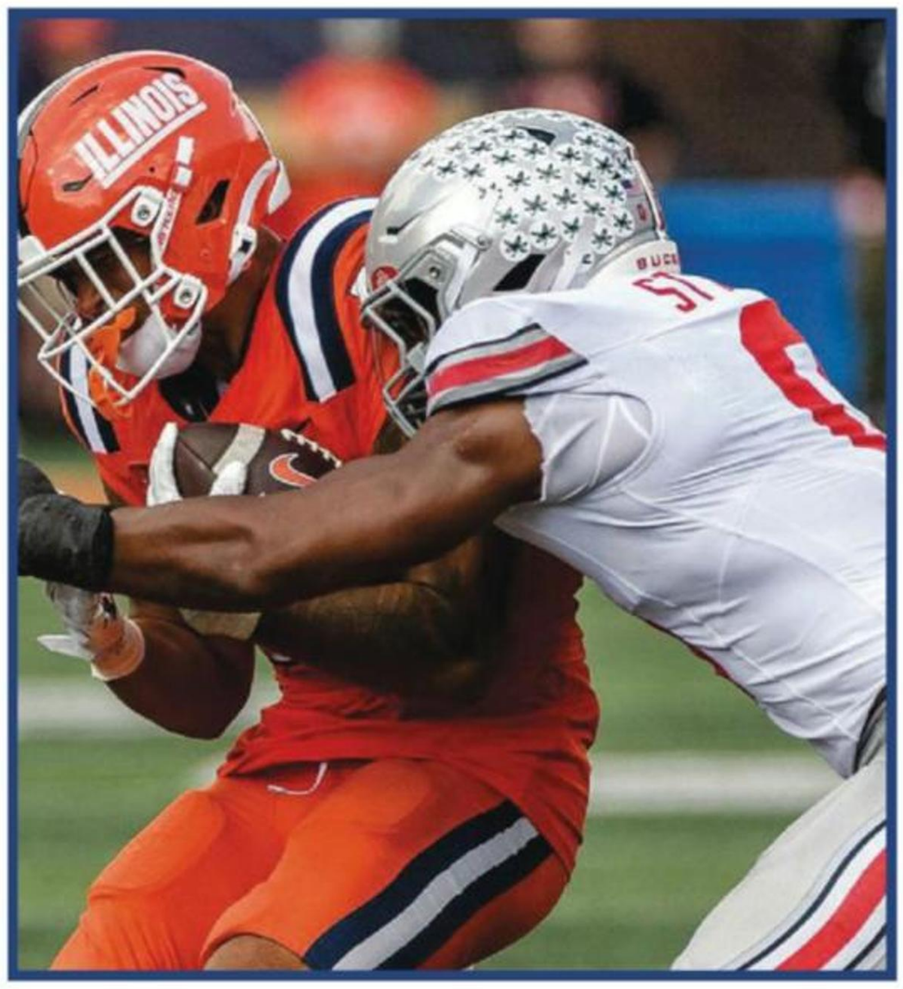
2025 Record: 4-13, 4th NFC East

Season Summary: The Giants fired coach Brian Daboll, Nov. 10, after a 2-8 start to his fourth season in charge. New York made the playoffs in Daboll's rookie campaign, but missed the postseason for the third straight time. Brian Burns was a second-team All-Pro in his second season in the Big Apple, finishing second in the NFL with 16.5 sacks.

Offseason Overview: Four Ravens joined John Harbaugh in New York — TE Isaiah Likely, P Jordan Stout, FB Patrick Ricard and SAF Ar'Darius Washington. The Giants also retained the services of OT Jermaine Eluemunor, LB Micah McFadden and OL Evan Neal, and added LB Tremaine Edmunds, CB Greg Newsome, WR Darnell Mooney and WR Calvin Austin. Their biggest loss comes in the form of WR Wan'Dale Robinson, who followed Daboll to Tennessee along with CB Cordale Flott, TE Daniel Bellinger and C Austin Schlottmann. SAF Dane Belton signed across town with the Jets, and the Giants also parted ways with QB Russell Wilson, LB Bobby Okereke, OT James Hudson, DL Rakeem Nunez-Roches and OG Greg Van Roten.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 5th overall
Round 2: 37th
Round 4: 105th
Round 5: 145th
Round 6: 186th
Round 6: 192nd (from MIA in Darren Waller deal)
Round 6: 193rd (from DAL in Jordan Phillips deal)
Round 3: 69th (traded to HOU as part of deal to select Jaxson Dart)
Round 7: 221st (to DAL in Phillips deal)



DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Sonny Styles, LB, Ohio State. New York would love to grab the new quarterback of its defense. Styles is a rare physical specimen that can control the middle of the field.

Three-round strategy: The Giants really need a second wide receiver. Their pass catchers are just very lean outside of Malik Nabers. Linebacker could be a problem still even after signing Edmunds.

Day 3 depth: Don't be surprised if New York adds a running back this year. Although they are strong across the defensive front overall, another defensive tackle could certainly be in play.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	333.5 13TH	129.1 5TH	204.4 21ST	22.4 T-17TH	40.2% 14TH	9.1% 24TH	17 T-11TH
DEFENSE	359.5 28TH	145.3 31ST	214.2 16TH	25.8 26TH	39.2% 13TH	7.1% 17TH	15 25TH

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

DRAFT DITTY: Before 2024, the Eagles hadn't drafted a cornerback in the first round since 2002. They also haven't picked a running back in the first round since 1983.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 23rd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Howie Roseman (2010)

Head Coach
Nick Sirianni (2021)

Offensive Coordinator
Sean Mannion (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Vic Fangio (2024)

Special Teams Coordinator
Michael Clay (2021)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 40 (T-16th most)
Average 1st pick: 17.0 (12th)
Offensive picks: 16 (T-29th)
Defensive picks: 24 (T-5th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
WR DeVonta Smith
10th overall, 2021
Highest pick on defense:
DL Jalen Carter
9th overall, 2023
Last specialist pick:
K Alex Henery
120th overall, 2011

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 11-6, 1st NFC East

Season Summary: Philadelphia recorded its fifth consecutive winning season and became the first NFC East team to repeat as division champions since 2004. The Eagles made their fifth consecutive postseason, which includes two Super Bowl appearances and one Lombardi Trophy. Philadelphia fell to the 49ers in the Wild-Card game, despite boasting two All-Pro defensive backs (Quinyon Mitchell, Cooper DeJean).

Offseason Overview: The Eagles enter the season with a new offensive coordinator for the fourth straight year. That offense will have some new pieces in WR Marquise Brown and tight ends Grant Calaterra, Johnny Mundt and Stone Smartt. They also added RB Dameon Pierce. Philadelphia's defense took some hard hits in free agency with EDGE Jaelan Phillips (Panthers), LB Nakobe Dean (Raiders) and SAF Reed Blankenship (Texans) finding new homes. However, the team did add CB Tariq Woolen and EDGE Arnold Ebiketie.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 23rd overall
Round 2: 54th
Round 3: 68th (from NYJ for Haason Reddick)
Round 3: 98th (compensatory pick)
Round 4: 114th (from ATL in Sydney Brown deal)
Round 4: 137th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 153rd (from ATL, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 5: 178th (compensatory pick)
Round 6: 197th (from ATL in Brown deal)
Round 3: 87th (traded to MIA for Jaelan Phillips)
Round 4: 122nd (traded to ATL in Brown deal)
Round 5: 163rd (traded to MIN in Sam Howell deal)
Round 6: 203rd (traded to JAX for Tank Bigsby)
Round 6: 215th (compensatory pick, traded to ATL in Brown deal)
Round 7: 239th (traded to JAX for Fred Johnson)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Kenyon Sadiq, TE, Oregon. Sadiq probably won't last until the Eagles pick and this organization doesn't often invest in tight ends early. But what an addition he would be to an already strong roster.

Three-round strategy: The Eagles lost Phillips in free agency and could look to replace him with an early draft selection. Wide receiver also makes sense, particularly if A.J. Brown could be on the move at some point.

Day 3 depth: We know the Eagles value offensive line as much as any team in the league and several of their stalwarts are getting long in the tooth. Secondary depth also should be a late-round priority.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	311.2 **24TH**	116.9 **18TH**	194.3 **23RD**	22.3 **19TH**	37.1% **24TH**	7.0% **16TH**	15 **T-4TH**
DEFENSE	314.2 **13TH**	124.4 **22ND**	189.8 **8TH**	19.1 **5TH**	40.5% **21ST**	7.7% **15TH**	21 **T-10TH**

WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

DRAFT DITTY: Since the 2012 draft, Washington has made 13 first-round picks. Three of those 13 were used for quarterbacks. They have also used a Day 1 or Day 2 pick on a defensive back in four of the last five years.

TOTAL PICKS: 6

TOP PICK: 7th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Adam Peters (2024)

Head Coach
Dan Quinn (2024)

Offensive Coordinator
David Blough (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Daronte Jones (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Larry Izzo (2024)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 39 (T-18th most)
Average 1st pick: 16.4 (11th)
Offensive picks: 19 (T-16th)
Defensive picks: 19 (T-18th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
QB Jayden Daniels
2nd overall, 2024
Highest pick on defense:
CB Emmanuel Forbes
16th overall, 2023
Highest specialist pick:
LS Camaron Cheeseman
225th overall, 2021

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 5-12, 4th NFC West

Season Summary: After a 12-5 campaign and an NFC Championship Game appearance in 2024, the Commanders stumbled in their second year under Dan Quinn. Reigning Offensive Rookie of the Year Jayden Daniels was limited to just seven games due to injuries in his sophomore campaign, and a league-worst defense landed Washington in the NFC East basement.

Offseason Overview: Washington invested heavily on defense, doling out contracts for edge rushers Odafe Oweh, K'Lavon Chaisson and Charles Omenihu, as well as signing LB Leo Chenal, DL Tim Settle, S Nick Cross and CB Amik Robertson. On offense, the Commanders brought in TE Chig Okonkwo, RB Rachaad White, WR Dyami Brown, WR Van Jefferson and RB Jerome Ford. The team also re-signed QB Marcus Mariota, OG Chris Paul and OT Trenton Scott. Expired contracts include CB Marshon Lattimore, WR Deebo Samuel, LB Bobby Wagner, TE Zach Ertz, EDGE Von Miller, RB Austin Ekeler and WR Noah Brown. C Tyler Biadasz (Chargers), RB Chris Rodriguez (Jaguars), LB Jake Martin (Titans), CB Jonathan Jones, CB Noah Igbinoghene (Seahawks) and QB Josh Johnson (Bengals) signed elsewhere.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 7th overall
Round 3: 71st
Round 5: 147th
Round 6: 187th
Round 6: 209th (from SF for Brian Robinson)
Round 7: 223rd
Round 2: 38th (traded to HOU in Laremy Tunsil deal)
Round 4: 106th (traded to HOU in Tunsil deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Jeremiyah Love, RB, Notre Dame. Defending the combination of Love and Jayden Daniels would be a nightmare for opposing run defenses. Plus, Love is a fantastic receiving option for the young quarterback.

Three-round strategy: Cornerback is a real problem area for Washington as is the need for a second wide receiver. Running back is another area where the Commanders are quite weak.

Day 3 depth: For the most part, Washington should concentrate on defense in this draft with the exception of a few offensive playmakers.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	318.8 22ND	134.7 4TH	184.1 24TH	20.9 T-22ND	37.6% 21ST	7.9% 18TH	23 T-21ST
DEFENSE	384.3 32ND	141.8 30TH	242.5 28TH	26.5 27TH	41.3% 23RD	7.8% 13TH	10 31ST

CHICAGO BEARS

DRAFT DITTY: Since the 2017 draft, Chicago has made just seven first-round picks. Only one of those selections was used on a defensive player. Their first three picks were made on offense in each of the last two drafts.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 25th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Ryan Poles (2022)

Head Coach
Ben Johnson (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Press Taylor (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Dennis Allen (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Richard Hightower (2022)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 41 (T-11th most)

Average 1st pick: 14.2 (8th)

Offensive picks: 22 (T-8th)

Defensive picks: 17 (T-26th)

Specialist picks: 2 (T-2nd)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Caleb Williams
1st overall, 2024

Highest pick on defense:
CB Kyler Gordon
39th overall, 2022

Highest specialist pick:
P Tory Taylor
122nd overall, 2024

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 11-6, 1st NFC North

Season Summary: Chicago recorded its first playoff victory since 2010, and took the Los Angeles Rams to overtime in the Divisional Round — all in Ben Johnson's head coaching debut. The Bears led the league in interceptions (23) and total takeaways (33) en route to their first division title since 2018. Second-year quarterback Caleb Williams had the fifth-most passing attempts (568) while becoming the Bears' single-season leader with 3,942 yards.

Offseason Overview: The Bears went big on defense, signing safety Coby Bryant off the Super Bowl champion Seahawks. They also added DL Neville Gallimore, C Cam Lewis and CB Elijah Hicks. They'll have big shoes to fill on a defense that lost LB Tremaine Edmunds (Giants), safeties Kevin Byard (Patriots), Jaquan Brisker (Steelers), C.J. Gardner-Johnson (Bills) and Jonathan Owens (Colts), CB Nahshon Wright (Jets), EDGE Dominique Robinson (Texans) and DL Andrew Billings. Chicago was quieter on offense, signing OT Braxton Jones, WR Kalif Raymond and QB Case Keenum. They traded WR D.J. Moore, and C Drew Dalman announced his retirement at age 27.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 25th overall
Round 2: 57th
Round 2: 60th (from BUF in Moore deal)
Round 3: 89th
Round 4: 129th (from LAR, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 7: 239th (from CLE in Joe Tryon-Shoyinka deal)
Round 7: 241st
Round 4: 125th (traded to KC for Joe Thuney)
Round 5: 165th (traded to BUF in Moore deal)
Round 6: 206th (traded to CLE in Tryon-Shoyinka deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Peter Woods, DT, Clemson. The Bears might just look at their first pick as the best defensive lineman available. Woods has a lot of ability, but was underwhelming last season.

Three-round strategy: Chicago's biggest area that needs to be addressed is the defensive line, both at defensive tackle and at edge. Safety is probably the next biggest spot that needs attention.

Day 3 depth: The Bears might look to groom a center of the future with a mid-round selection. Adding another wideout or running back also makes sense.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	369.5 **6TH**	144.5 **3RD**	225.1 **10TH**	25.9 **9TH**	42.7% **7TH**	4.2% **3RD**	11 **1ST**
DEFENSE	361.8 **29TH**	134.5 **27TH**	227.2 **22ND**	24.4 **23RD**	40.8% **22ND**	6.6% **21ST**	33 **1ST**

DETROIT LIONS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2017, the Lions have selected defensive players with their first two picks just once. Detroit has also used a first-round pick on a player from Alabama in three of the last four years.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 17th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Brad Holmes (2021)

Head Coach
Dan Campbell (2021)

Offensive Coordinator
Drew Petzing (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Kelvin Sheppard (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Dave Fipp (2021)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 36 (T-28th most)

Average 1st pick: 14.6 (9th)

Offensive picks: 16 (T-29th)

Defensive picks: 20 (T-14th)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
OL Penei Sewell
7th overall, 2021

Highest pick on defense:
DE Aidan Hutchinson
2nd overall, 2022

Last specialist pick:
LS Jimmy Landes
210th overall, 2016

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 9-8, 4th NFC North

Season Summary: After back-to-back playoff appearances, Detroit rolled to a 3-1 record in September and was 5-2 at the bye. However, a 1-3 record in December capped off the Lions' first-to-worst finish in the NFC North. Jared Goff finished second in passing yards (4,564), and Amon-Ra St. Brown landed fifth in receiving (1,401). Edge rusher Aidan Hutchinson was a bright spot on defense, finishing runner-up in Comeback Player of the Year voting.

Offseason Overview: The Lions didn't make much of a free agency splash, handing out their largest contract to C Cade Mays. They also added OT Larry Borom, RB Isaiah Pacheco and WR Greg Dortch to the offense, while trading for OL Juice Scruggs. The richest deal on defense went to re-signing CB Rock Ya-Sin. Detroit also signed EDGE D.J. Wonnum, SAF Christian Izien and linebackers Malcolm Rodriguez and Damone Clark. That unit lost LB Alex Anzalone (Buccaneers), CB Amik Robertson (Commanders), DL Roy Lopez (Cardinals) and EDGE Al-Quadin Muhammad (Buccaneers). LT Taylor Decker, DL D.J. Reader and C Graham Glasgow remain unsigned, and RB David Montgomery (Texans) went the other way in a trade.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 17th overall
Round 2: 50th
Round 4: 118th
Round 4: 128th (from HOU in Montgomery deal)
Round 5: 157th
Round 5: 181st (compensatory pick)
Round 6: 205th (from JAX for Tim Patrick)
Round 6: 213th (from JAX, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 7: 222nd (from CLE in Za'Darius Smith deal)
Round 3: 81st (traded to JAX, 2025 Draft Day)

Round 6: 199th (traded to CLE in Smith deal)
Round 7: 233rd (traded to JAX for Riley Patterson)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Kadyn Proctor, OT, Alabama. Proctor might start his career at guard and then eventually bump out to tackle. His physicality and size fit this organization well.

Three-round strategy: There has been a lot of movement with the Lions offensive line this offseason. But more is needed. A true tackle and more interior help should be on the agenda. A complement to Hutchinson has been something Detroit has been lacking for some time.

Day 3 depth: Detroit could look for more at linebacker as the draft goes on. Maybe they'd consider a young quarterback to develop.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	373.2 5TH	120.1 14TH	253.1 3RD	28.3 T-4TH	38.8% 20TH	6.7% 13TH	15 T-4TH
DEFENSE	331.9 18TH	114.5 14TH	217.4 20TH	24.3 22ND	36.9% 9TH	8.8% 7TH	19 T-19TH

GREEN BAY PACKERS

DRAFT DITTY: Green Bay has drafted 43 players over the past four years and 90 players over the past nine years. These last two drafts are the first time Green Bay has gone back-to-back offensive first rounders since 2010 and 2011.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 52nd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Brian Gutekunst (2018)

Head Coach
Matt LaFleur (2019)

Offensive Coordinator
Adam Stenavich (2022)

Defensive Coordinator
Jonathan Gannon (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Cam Achord (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 52 (1st)

Avg. 1st pick: 22.4 (T-20th)

Offensive picks: 27 (2nd)

Defensive picks: 24 (T-5th)

Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)

Highest pick on offense:
WR Matthew Golden
23rd overall, 2025

Highest pick on defense:
DL Lukas Van Ness
13th overall, 2023

Highest specialist pick:
K Anders Carlson
207th overall, 2023

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 9-7-1, 2nd NFC North

Season Summary: The Packers traded for three-time All-Pro defender Micah Parsons before the season started, and he added a fourth All-Pro nod in his first season in Green Bay, despite suffering a season-ending torn ACL, Dec. 14. After a 5-1-1 start, the Packers went winless in December and landed in the postseason as the seventh seed, where they lost to the Chicago Bears in the wild-card round. It was the sixth time in the last seven years Green Bay made the playoffs.

Offseason Overview: Green Bay lost more than it gained in free agency, including QB Malik Willis (Dolphins), WR Romeo Doubs (Patriots), LB Quay Walker (Raiders), C Elgton Jenkins (Browns), EDGE Kingsley Enagbare (Jets) and LT Rasheed Walker (Panthers). They traded Rashan Gary to Dallas, released CB Nate Hobbs (49ers), and failed to re-sign CB Trevon Diggs. They Packers will also spend the offseason holding their breath on Parsons nine-month recovery. Joining the team are DL Javon Hargrave, CB Benjamin St-Juste, OT Darian Kinnard, TE Josh Whyle, EDGE Brenton Cox Jr., and LB Kristian Welch. The team also lost defensive coordinator Jeff Hafley, who is now head coach of the Dolphins. Special teams coordinator Rich Bisaccia stepped down.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 2: 52nd overall
Round 3: 84th
Round 4: 120th
Round 5: 160th
Round 6: 201st
Round 7: 236th
Round 7: 255th (compensatory pick)
Round 1: 20th (traded to DAL in Micah Parsons deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Chris Johnson, CB, San Diego State. Green Bay doesn't have a first-round pick, but should have an opportunity to still grab a quality cornerback prospect. There is a good chance that Johnson doesn't last this long into the second round, though.

Three-round strategy: Defensive tackle is a very worrisome spot right now for the Packers and should certainly be the top priority. Cornerback also should be addressed rather early in this draft.

Day 3 depth: The Packers should look for more offensive line help, especially at guard. Maybe a running back will be in order as well.

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	332.6 **15TH**	119.8 **15TH**	212.8 **17TH**	23.0 **16TH**	48.8% **2ND**	5.9% **12TH**	13 **3RD**
DEFENSE	311.8 **12TH**	117.7 **18TH**	194.1 **11TH**	21.2 **11TH**	39.5% **14TH**	6.6% **22ND**	14 **T-26TH**

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

DRAFT DITTY: Minnesota made two Round 2 selections in the 2022 draft. Those are the only two second rounders the Vikings made over the past five draft classes.

TOTAL PICKS: 9

TOP PICK: 18th

CALLING THE SHOTS

Interim General Manager
Rob Brzezinski (2026)

Head Coach
Kevin O'Connell (2022)

Offensive Coordinator
Wes Phillips (2022)

Defensive Coordinator
Brian Flores (2023)

Special Teams Coordinator
Matt Daniels (2022)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

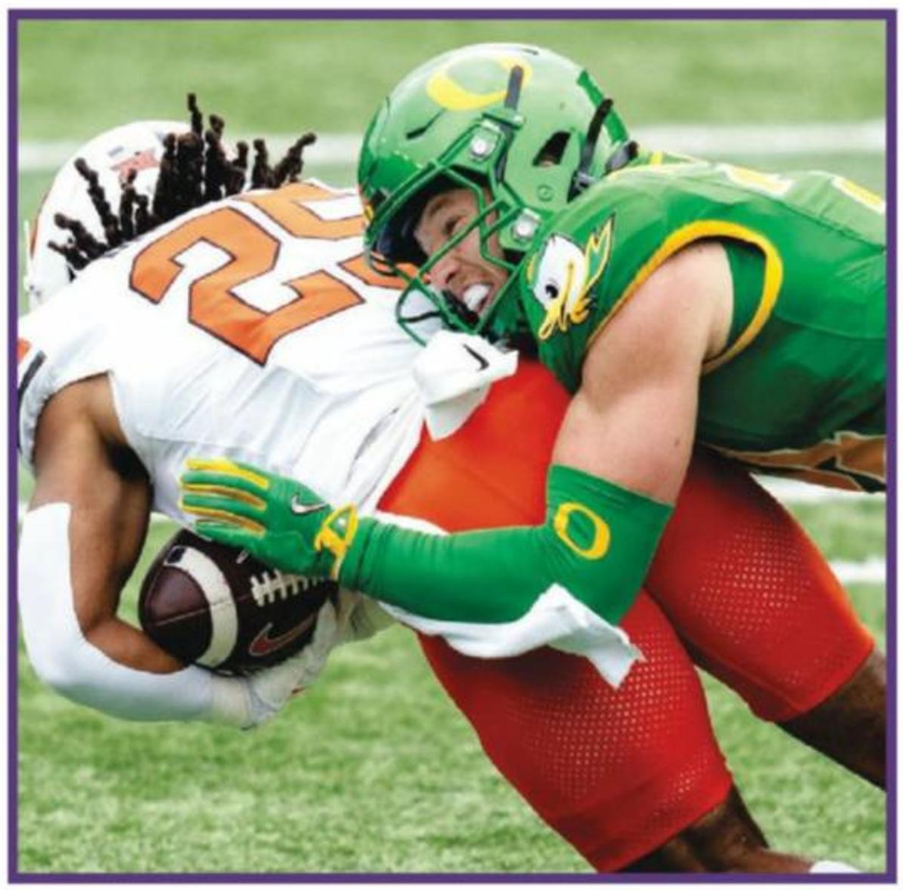
Total picks: 39 (T-18th most)
Avg. 1st pick: 22.4 (T-20th)
Offensive picks: 20 (T-11th)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
QB J.J. McCarthy
10th overall, 2024
Highest pick on defense:
LB Dallas Turner
17th overall, 2024
Highest specialist pick:
K Will Reichard
203rd overall, 2024

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 9-8, 3rd NFC North

Season Summary: The Vikings let QB Sam Darnold leave in free agency a year ago, and he won the Super Bowl in Seattle. Meanwhile, Minnesota trotted out three different starters under center, and never got on track. Rookie J.J. McCarthy was limited to 10 appearances due to multiple injuries (ankle sprain, concussion, hand fracture); Carson Wentz made five starts; and Max Brosmer made a pair of starts, including the first of his career. The team combined for a 75.3 passer rating. Only the Browns and Jets posted a lower number.

Offseason Overview: The biggest change in Minnesota occurred at the very top, when the Vikings fired GM Kwesi Adofo-Mensah after four years. The team will run the draft with an interim. On the field, the Vikings did not add much besides intrigue — signing Wentz and Kyler Murray to challenge McCarthy for snaps under center. They also added CB James Pierre and SAF Tavierre Thomas. Leaving town are DL Jonathan Allen (Bengals), WR Jalen Nailor (Raiders), DL Javon Hargrave (Packers) P Ryan Wright (Saints), SAF Harrison Smith, C Ryan Kelly (retired) and CB Jeff Okudah.



SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 18th overall
Round 2: 49th
Round 3: 82nd
Round 3: 97th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 163rd (from PHI in Sam Howell deal)
Round 6: 196th (from IND for Mekhi Blackmon)
Round 7: 234th
Round 7: 235th (from CAR in Adam Thielen deal)
Round 7: 244th (from HOU in Cam Akers deal)
Round 4: 117th (traded to JAX in Cam Robinson deal)
Round 5: 158th (traded to CAR in Thielen deal)
Round 6: 198th (traded to HOU in Akers deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Dillon Thieneman, S, Oregon. Harrison Smith has been an institution in Minnesota for a very long time. They are hoping Thieneman can follow in his footsteps.

Three-round strategy: The Vikings have had a lot of defensive tackle turnover of late and could look to stabilize that issue via the draft. Safety is also a position of weakness currently.

Day 3 depth: Ryan Kelly's retirement leaves Minnesota wanting at center. The Vikings would also be smart to grab more wide receiver depth.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	275.0 28TH	108.3 23RD	166.7 29TH	20.2 26TH	31.8% 32ND	12.4% 31ST	30 32ND
DEFENSE	282.6 3RD	124.1 21ST	158.5 2ND	19.6 7TH	34.5% 4TH	11.0% 2ND	21 T-10TH

ATLANTA FALCONS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2013, Atlanta has made 11 picks in the second round. Only one was used on an offensive player.

TOTAL PICKS: 5

TOP PICK: 48th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Ian Cunningham (2026)

Head Coach
Kevin Stefanski (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Tommy Rees (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Jeff Ulbrich (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Craig Aukerman (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 36 (T-28th most)
Average 1st pick: 8.6 (2nd)
Offensive picks: 16 (T-29th)
Defensive picks: 20 (T-14th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
TE Kyle Pitts
4th overall, 2021
Highest pick on defense:
DE Jalon Walker
15th overall, 2025
Last specialist pick:
P Sterling Hofrichter
228th overall, 2020

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 8-9, 3rd NFC South

Season Summary: After finishing 31st in sacks the previous year, Atlanta set a team record with 57 this season, led by rookie James Pearce's 10.5. Bijan Robinson finished fourth in rushing yards (1,478), but it was not enough to overcome inconsistencies under center with Michael Penix starting nine of the first 10 games before giving way to Kirk Cousins after a partially torn ACL. The result was the dismissal of coach Raheem Morris and GM Terry Fontenot.

Offseason Overview: The most expensive move the Falcons made was to sign K Nick Folk. Their most interesting move, however, was to cut Cousins and sign Tua Tagovailoa. They also brought back TE Austin Hooper and signed EDGE Cam Thomas, DL Da'Shawn Hand, P Jake Bailey, EDGE Samson Ebukam. Atlanta's defense suffered losses in the form of LB Kaden Elliss (Saints), DL David Onyemata (Jets), CB Dee Alford (Bills), and edge rushers Arnold Ebiketie (Eagles) and Leonard Floyd (unsigned). The defense will also face questions as Pearce, a finalist for Defensive Rookie of the Year, faces multiple felony charges from a February incident. Meanwhile, RB Tyler Allgeier (Cardinals) moved on, as did OG Elijah Wilkinson (Cardinals) and WR Darnell Mooney (Giants).

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 2: 48th overall
Round 3: 79th
Round 4: 122nd (from PHI in Sydney Brown deal)
Round 6: 215th (from PHI in Brown deal)
Round 7: 231st
Round 1: 13th (traded to LAR, to select James Pearce Jr.)
Round 4: 114th (traded to PHI in Brown deal)
Round 5: 153rd (traded to PHI, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 6: 197th (traded to PHI in Brown deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Germie Bernard, WR, Alabama. The Falcons are without a pick in Round One. If they could add a receiver such as Bernard, who seems very pro ready, they should jump on that opportunity.

Three-round strategy: The Falcons are incredibly light right now at defensive tackle and should possibly look to draft two players at this position. Atlanta also should actively pursue more talent at wide receiver outside of Drake London.

Day 3 depth: A backup running back should be something the Falcons look to pick up here as well as edge depth. Taking a flyer on a quarterback somewhere in this draft also could be a prudent decision. More is also needed on the Falcons offensive line, linebacker, and cornerback.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	333.0 14TH	125.8 8TH	207.2 19TH	20.8 24TH	33.3% 30TH	4.8% 5TH	18 T-13TH
DEFENSE	326.6 15TH	126.2 24TH	200.4 13TH	23.6 19TH	39.9% 18TH	10.8% 4TH	23 T-7TH

CAROLINA PANTHERS

DRAFT DITTY: The Panthers have used one of their first two picks on a quarterback or wide receiver in each of the past five years.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 19th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Dan Morgan (2024)

Head Coach
Dave Canales (2024)

Offensive Coordinator
Brad Idzik (2024)

Defensive Coordinator
Ejiro Evero (2022)

Special Teams Coordinator
Tracy Smith (2024)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 37 (T-23rd most)
Average 1st pick: 11.0 (4th)
Offensive picks: 19 (T-16th)
Defensive picks: 17 (T-26th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
QB Bryce Young
1st overall, 2023
Highest pick on defense:
CB Jaycee Horn
8th overall, 2021
Highest specialist pick:
LS Thomas Fletcher
222nd overall, 2021

STATUS REPORT

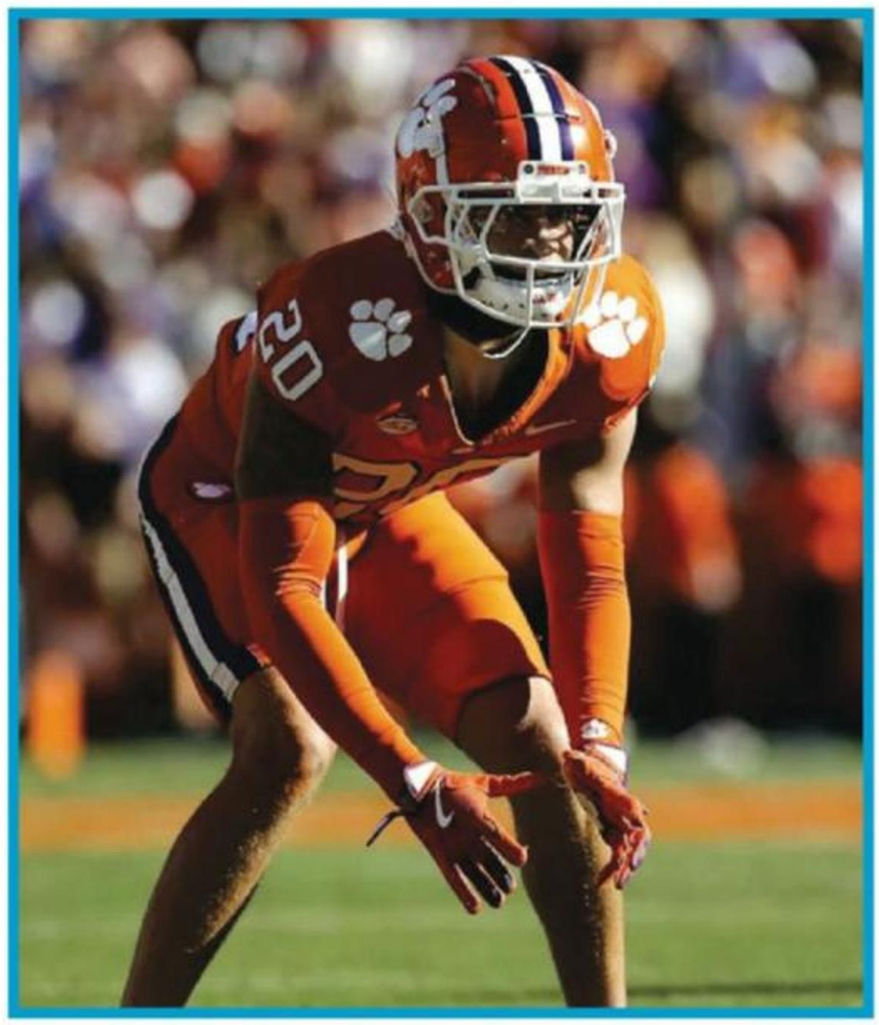
2025 Record: 8-9, 1st NFC South

Season Summary: Despite a losing record, Carolina hosted a playoff game in its first postseason appearance since 2017. A Matthew Stafford go-ahead touchdown pass with 38 seconds left ended the Panthers' season in a Wild-Card loss. Bryce Young made huge strides in his third season, tossing a career high 23 touchdowns. Tetairoa McMillan was on the receiving end of seven of those scores and was named AP Offensive Rookie of the Year with 70 catches for 1,014 yards.

Offseason Overview: Carolina ponied up more than $100 million in guaranteed money for two defenders: EDGE Jaelan Phillips and LB Devin Lloyd. Phillips signed for the highest average annual value ($30 million) of any free agent, and received the third-highest guaranteed money ($80 million). That didn't leave much room for other moves, but the Panthers did also add LT Rasheed Walker, QB Kenny Pickett, C Luke Fortner, RT Stone Forsythe, SAF Nick Scott and WR John Metchie. They lost DL A'Shawn Robinson (Buccaneers), C Cade Mays (Lions), RB Rico Dowdle (Steelers) and EDGE D.J. Wonnum (Lions). OT Yosh Nijman, C Austen Corbett, OG Brady Christensen and WR Hunter Renfrow are among the former Panthers still unsigned.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 19th overall
Round 2: 51st
Round 3: 83rd
Round 4: 119th
Round 5: 158th (from MIN in Adam Thielen deal)
Round 5: 159th
Round 6: 200th
Round 7: 235th (traded to MIN in Thielen deal)



DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Avieon Terrell, CB, Clemson. The Panthers made two big additions in the first two levels of their defense. Why not grab Terrell to then reinforce their secondary?

Three-round strategy: Even after signing Lloyd, the Panthers could use more at linebacker as his running mate. Center is also a problem spot for Carolina, as is safety.

Day 3 depth: The Panthers could nab a tight end at some point in a deep draft at that position. Running back is also another late option.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	295.6 **27TH**	116.3 **19TH**	179.3 **26TH**	18.3 **27TH**	36.1% **25TH**	6.8% **14TH**	23 **T-21ST**
DEFENSE	327.2 **16TH**	123.3 **20TH**	203.9 **15TH**	22.4 **T-15TH**	47.1% **31ST**	5.9% **27TH**	21 **T-10TH**

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2008, New Orleans has only drafted 109 players. That is an average of just 6.1 draft picks per year. The Saints have made just 45 picks combined over the past seven years, 14 of which have been sixth- or seventh-round picks.

TOTAL PICKS: 8

TOP PICK: 8th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Mickey Loomis (2002)

Head Coach
Kellen Moore (2025)

Offensive Coordinator
Doug Nussmeier (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Brandon Staley (2025)

Special Teams Coordinator
Phil Galiano (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 34 (31st most)

Average 1st pick: 18.2 (13th)

Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)

Defensive picks: 17 (T-26th)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
OL Kelvin Banks
9th overall, 2025

Highest pick on defense:
DE Payton Turner
28th overall, 2021

Last specialist pick:
P Thomas Morstead
164th overall, 2009

STATUS REPORT

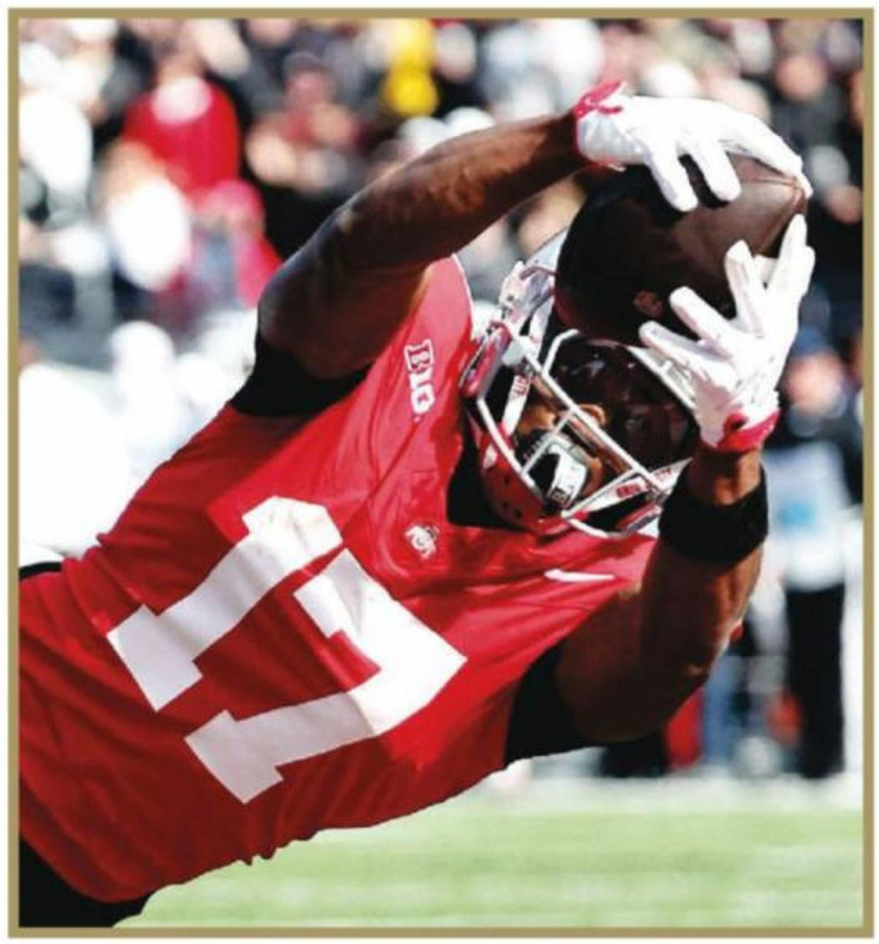
2025 Record: 6-11, 4th NFC South

Season Summary: Kellen Moore's coaching debut landed New Orleans in the NFC South cellar, but it was an improvement over the five-win team he inherited. Quarterback Tyler Shough, a second-round draft pick in 2025, replaced second-year signal caller Spencer Rattler in Week 8, and started the final nine contests. He threw 10 touchdowns for a 91.3 passer rating and finished runner-up in AP Offensive Rookie of the Year voting.

Offseason Overview: New Orleans added to its offense in free agency, signing OL David Edwards, RB Travis Etienne, TE Noah Fant, OG Dillon Radunz and RB Ty Chandler. The Saints also inked LB Kaden Elliss, DL John Ridgeway, EDGE Chris Rumph II and P Ryan Wright. CB Alontae Taylor is leaving New Orleans, signing the richest cornerback deal of free agency with the Titans. LB Demario Davis (Jets), TE Foster Moreau (Texans), C Luke Fortner (Panthers), EDGE Jonah Williams (Cardinals) and TE Jack Stoll (Browns) are among the other departures. Cameron Jordan — a Saint since 2011 — remained unsigned at press time, as was TE Taysom Hill and LT Landon Young.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 8th overall
Round 2: 42nd
Round 3: 73rd
Round 4: 132nd (from SEA in Rashid Shaheed deal)
Round 4: 136th (compensatory pick)
Round 5: 150th
Round 5: 172nd (from SEA in Shaheed deal)
Round 6: 190th
Round 4: 108th (traded to DEN in Devaughn Vele deal)
Round 7: 224th (traded to NE for Davon Godchaux)



DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Carnell Tate, WR, Ohio State. Shough, entering his second season under center would love this pick. Tate is an ideal complement to Chris Olave, another former Buckeye wideout, and would add some much-needed firepower.

Three-round strategy: The Saints wide receiver corps is pretty light outside of Olave. New Orleans could also grab a tight end early to really bolster their pass catchers and surround Shough with as many weapons as possible.

Day 3 depth: The Saints have plenty of work to still do on defense. The two areas that stand out most in this regard are defensive tackle and cornerback, but don't discount linebacker or edge rusher.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	313.6 **23RD**	94.3 **28TH**	219.3 **13TH**	18.0 **28TH**	39.5% **18TH**	8.3% **22ND**	24 **T-27TH**
DEFENSE	299.8 **9TH**	120.6 **19TH**	179.2 **4TH**	22.5 **17TH**	34.3% **3RD**	9.2% **5TH**	20 **T-15TH**

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

DRAFT DITTY: The Buccaneers have used a Top 57 pick on a defensive player 10 years in a row. Since 2018, Tampa Bay has made no fewer than six selections, but no more than eight players drafted in any of those classes.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 15th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Jason Licht (2014)

Head Coach
Todd Bowles (2022)

Offensive Coordinator
Josh Grizzard (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Bowles (2019)

Special Teams Coordinator
Danny Smith (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 36 (T-28th most)
Average 1st pick: 25.8 (23rd)
Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)
Defensive picks: 18 (T-20th)
Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)
Highest pick on offense:
WR Emeka Egbuka
19th overall, 2025
Highest pick on defense:
DL Calijah Kancey
19th overall, 2023
Highest specialist pick:
P Jake Camarda
133rd overall, 2022

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 8-9, 2nd NFC South

Season Summary: A 6-2 start had Tampa Bay looking like a lock to make its sixth straight playoff appearance. The Buccaneers stumbled to a 2-7 finish, including 0-4 in December, surrendering the division to Carolina in a tiebreaker. Rookie Emeka Egbuka led the team with 63 receptions, 938 yards and six touchdown catches. He also posted three games of 100 receiving yards or more. Mike Evans, who tied Jerry Rice for the most consecutive 1,000-yard seasons (11), missed the chance at No. 12, playing only five games due to multiple injuries, including a broken collarbone.

Offseason Overview: The biggest moves in Tampa Bay were actually out of Tampa Bay. Evans is headed to San Francisco, CB Jamel Dean to Pittsburgh, and DL Logan Hall landed in Houston. The team also lost SAF Christian Izien, RB Rachaad White and QB Teddy Bridgewater. On the flip side, TE Cade Otton re-signed with the Bucs, who also added DL A'Shawn Robinson, LB Alex Anzalone, RB Kenneth Gainwell and EDGE Al-Quadin Muhammad. EDGE Haason Reddick was not re-signed, nor was 14-year veteran LB Lavonte David. DL Greg Gaines also did not have a contract at press time.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 15th overall
Round 2: 46th
Round 3: 77th
Round 4: 116th
Round 5: 155th
Round 6: 195th
Round 7: 229th

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Akheem Mesidor, EDGE, Miami. There is a lot of pressure on the Buccaneers to win now. While Mesidor is up in age, he is NFL-ready and should help right away.

Three-round strategy: Tampa Bay is still lacking at the edge position. The same is still true at linebacker. Both of these positions have been lacking for too long. This team could use a jolt after a lackluster free agency period.

Day 3 depth: Tampa Bay could use another running back. The same is probably true for cornerback as well. They also might want a developmental quarterback.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	320.4 **21ST**	114.5 **21ST**	205.9 **20TH**	22.4 **T-17TH**	41.2% **10TH**	6.8% **15TH**	16 **T-9TH**
DEFENSE	337.2 **19TH**	99.1 **5TH**	238.2 **27TH**	24.2 **20TH**	39.5% **15TH**	6.5% **24TH**	23 **T-7TH**

ARIZONA CARDINALS

DRAFT DITTY: The Cardinals have made 28 draft selections over the past three years. They've made nine picks in the third round over the past four years.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 3rd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Monti Ossenfort (2023)

Head Coach
Mike LaFleur (2026)

Offensive Coordinator
Nathaniel Hackett (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Nick Rallis (2023)

Special Teams Coordinator
Michael Ghobrial (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 43 (9th most)

Average 1st pick: 19.4 (14th)

Offensive picks: 17 (T-22nd)

Defensive picks: 26 (T-1st)

Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)

Highest pick on offense:
WR Marvin Harrison Jr.
4th overall, 2024

Highest picks on defense:
LB Zaven Collins/DT Walter Nolen, 16th, 2021/2025

Last specialist pick:
K Bill Gramatica
98th overall, 2001

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 3-14, 4th NFC West

Season Summary: Arizona won its first two games of the season, but dropped 13 of the final 14 games, including nine straight to close out the year. The Cardinals missed the playoffs for the ninth time in the last 10 seasons. TE Trey McBride finished second in receptions (126) and tied for second in touchdown catches (11), but the offense could not generate anything in the ground game, with eight different rushers getting touches out of the backfield.

Offseason Overview: Coach Jonathan Gannon was fired after three losing seasons. The new regime wasted little time, adding 15 free agents — many at or near the league minimum. However, that crop incudes OG Isaac Seumalo, RB Tyler Allgeier, QB Gardner Minshew, DL Roy Lopez, WR Kendrick Bourne, LB Jack Gibbens, OG Elijah Wilkinson, SAF Andrew Wingard, DL Andrew Billings, DL L.J. Collier and WR Devin Duvernay. The biggest name to leave the desert is former No. 1 overall pick Kyler Murray (Vikings). His departure was joined by SAF Jalen Thompson (Cowboys), DL Dalvin Tomlinson (Chargers), LB Akeem Davis-Gaither (Colts), OL Evan Brown (Texans), and WR Greg Dortch (Lions). Still waiting for a payday were RT Jonah Williams, EDGE Bilal Nichols, DL Calais Campbell, LT Kelvin Beachum, WR Zay Jones and OG Will Hernandez.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 3rd overall
Round 2: 34th
Round 3: 65th
Round 4: 104th
Round 5: 143rd
Round 6: 183rd
Round 7: 217th

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Francis Mauigoa, OT, Miami. The Cardinals should strongly entertain offers to trade out of the third overall pick. If they stay put, Mauigoa would be a building block opposite Paris Johnson to help prepare for their next quarterback.

Three-round strategy: Most of the Cardinals moves thus far are short-term fixes to a roster that still needs a ton of work. So, long-term answers across the board will be important. Right tackle stands out here as does quarterback of course.

Day 3 depth: If the Cardinals are offense-heavy early in the draft, which would make a lot of sense, they could look for depth across their defense on Saturday. Linebacker is probably the weakest spot on defense.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	325.8 19TH	93.1 31ST	232.6 7TH	20.9 T-22ND	41.5% 9TH	9.1% 23RD	21 T-17TH
DEFENSE	357.7 27TH	126.9 25TH	230.8 24TH	28.7 29TH	43.1% 27TH	5.2% 28TH	19 T-19TH

LOS ANGELES RAMS

DRAFT DITTY: The 2024 draft was the first time the Rams made a first-round pick since selecting Jared Goff first overall in 2016. Their first selection has been on an offensive player in five of the past six years.

TOTAL PICKS: 7

TOP PICK: 13th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
Les Snead (2012)

Head Coach
Sean McVay (2017)

Offensive Coordinator
Nate Scheelhaase (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Chris Shula (2024)

Special Teams Coordinator
Bubba Ventrone (2026)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 47 (T-3rd most)

Average 1st pick: 52.4 (32nd)

Offensive picks: 20 (T-11th)

Defensive picks: 25 (4th)

Specialist picks: 2 (T-2nd)

Highest pick on offense:
C Steve Avila
36th overall, 2023

Highest pick on defense:
DL Jared Verse
19th overall, 2024

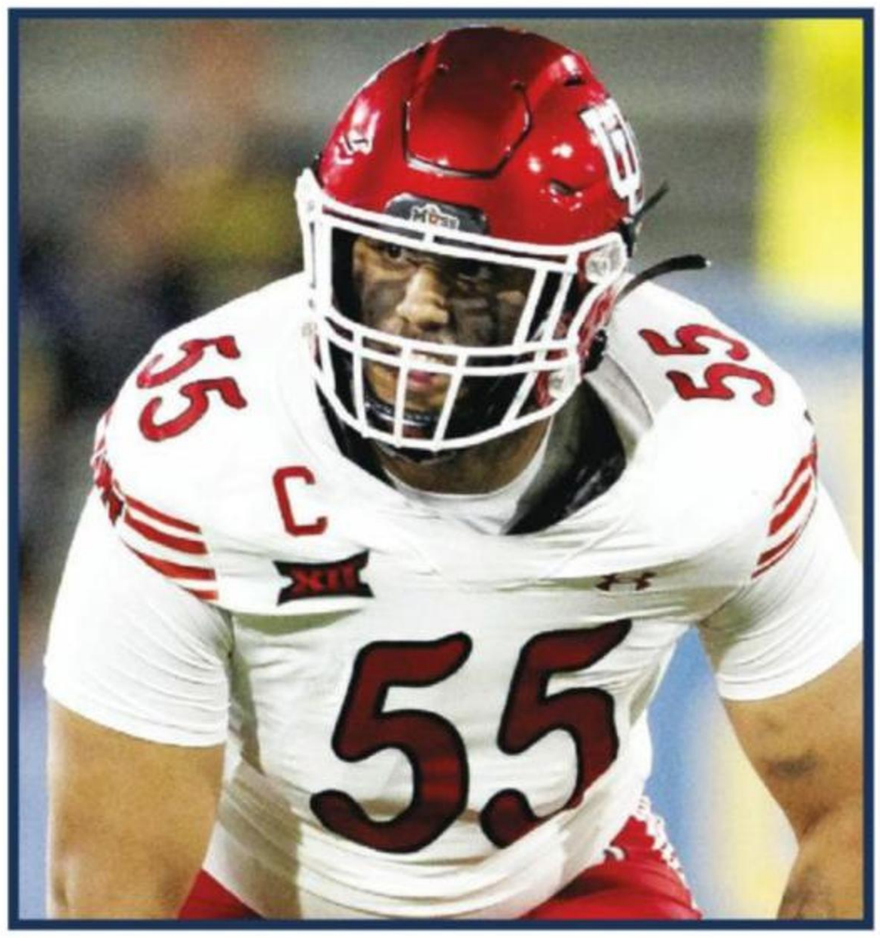
Highest specialist pick:
K Joshua Karty
209th overall, 2024

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 12-5, 2nd NFC West

Season Summary: Matthew Stafford led the league in passing yards (4,707), and threw 12 more touchdowns (46) than the next closest QB, en route to MVP honors. Meanwhile, Puka Nacua led the league in receptions (129) and finished second in receiving yards (1,715). Los Angeles made the playoffs for the third straight season and seventh time in the last nine years. The Rams fell to the Seahawks in the NFC Championship.

Offseason Overview: Los Angeles completed a blockbuster trade with Kansas City, acquiring CB Trent McDuffie in a pick swap. Otherwise, the Rams only added three players: CB Jaylen Watson, LB Grant Stuard and LS Joe Cardona. Cornerbacks Decobie Durant (Cowboys) and Roger McCreary (Lions) are leaving L.A., as are TuTu Atwell (Dolphins) and EDGE Nick Hampton (Panthers). QB Jimmy Garoppolo and LT D.J. Humphries were among those without a contract. The Rams also promoted Nate Scheelhaase to offensive coordinator after Mike LaFleur took over the lead job in Arizona.



SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 13th overall (from ATL, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 2: 61st
Round 3: 93rd
Round 6: 207th (from TEN in McCreary deal)
Round 7: 232nd (from BAL in Tre'Davious White deal)
Round 7: 251st (compensatory pick)
Round 7: 252nd (compensatory pick)
Round 1: 29th (to KC in McDuffie deal)
Round 4: 129th (traded to CHI, 2025 Draft Day)
Round 5: 169th (to KC in McDuffie deal)
Round 6: 210th (to KC in McDuffie deal)
Round 7: 245th (to TEN in McCreary deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Spencer Fano, OT, Utah. The Rams might take a win-now approach and grab a wide receiver here. But the responsible thing to do is use their early pick, something that they rarely possess, to get a premium position.

Three-round strategy: This is a loaded roster and Los Angeles is clearly ready for another title run. Drafting an offensive tackle for the future would be wise, but don't be surprised if a top priority is grabbing another dynamic playmaker at wide receiver.

Day 3 depth: Los Angeles could go the linebacker direction late in the draft and might even snag yet another tight end. Running back also isn't out of the question.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	394.6 1ST	126.6 7TH	268.1 1ST	30.5 1ST	39.6% 17TH	3.9% 2ND	15 T-4TH
DEFENSE	327.5 17TH	110.8 12TH	216.7 19TH	20.4 10TH	36.3% T-7TH	8.0% 10TH	26 5TH

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

DRAFT DITTY: Since 2013, in those 13 draft classes, the 49ers' first pick has been on a defensive player 10 times. Over the past five years, San Francisco has made 45 draft picks.

TOTAL PICKS: 6

TOP PICK: 27th

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
John Lynch (2017)

Head Coach
Kyle Shanahan (2017)

Offensive Coordinator
Klay Kubiak (2025)

Defensive Coordinator
Raheem Morris (2026)

Special Teams Coordinator
Brant Boyer (2025)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 45 (T-5th most)

Avg. 1st pick: 38.6 (T-29th)

Offensive picks: 23 (T-4th)

Defensive picks: 21 (T-9th)

Specialist picks: 1 (T-6th)

Highest pick on offense:
QB Trey Lance
3rd overall, 2021

Highest pick on defense:
DL Mykel Williams
11th overall, 2025

Highest specialist pick:
K Jake Moody
99th overall, 2023

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 12-5, 3rd NFC West

Season Summary: AP Comeback Player of the Year Christian McCaffrey led the 49ers in rushing yards (1,202), receiving yards (924) and receptions (102) guiding San Francisco to its fifth playoff berth in the last seven seasons. The 49ers, missing three All-Pros (George Kittle, Fred Warner and Nick Bosa), were handed the second-most lopsided playoff loss in franchise history, 41-6, to Seattle.

Offseason Overview: The 49ers appear to have struck gold in free agency, landing WR Mike Evans and bringing back LB Dre Greenlaw, who left San Francisco for Denver during free agency a year ago, and was cut by the Broncos. In other moves, the 49ers added LT Vederian Lowe, CB Nate Hobbs and WR Christian Kirk. They lost WR Kendrick Bourne (Cardinals), DL Jordan Elliott (Titans), OL Spencer Burford (Raiders), DL Kalia Davis (Browns), CB Jacob Pinnock (Giants), WR/RS Skyy Moore (Packers) and EDGE Bryce Huff (retired). The team's leading wide receiver last season, Jauan Jennings, was among the free agents still seeking a contract at press time, as were EDGE Yetur Gross-Matos, DL Kevin Givens, RB Brian Robinson, P Thomas Morstead and EDGE Clelin Ferrell.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 27th overall
Round 2: 58th
Round 4: 127th
Round 4: 133rd (compensatory pick)
Round 4: 138th (compensatory pick)
Round 4: 139th (compensatory pick)
Round 3: 92nd (traded to DAL for Odighizuwa)
Round 5: 166th (traded to PHI for Huff)
Round 6: 209th (traded to WAS for Robinson)
Round 7: 243rd (traded to HOU for Khalil Davis)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Max Iheanachor, OT, Arizona State. Iheanachor is as talented as any offensive linemen in this draft, but just hasn't been playing the game long. San Francisco would love to start him at guard while grooming Iheanachor as Trent Williams' replacement.

Three-round strategy: The Niners could use even more pass-rush help, particularly with a speedster off the edge. Offensive tackle should absolutely be in play as well early on.

Day 3 depth: The 49ers could use more interior offensive line help and a complementary running back to McCaffrey. Another pass catcher at receiver or tight end also makes a ton of sense.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	351.4 **7TH**	106.9 **24TH**	244.5 **5TH**	25.7 **10TH**	49.8% **1ST**	4.7% **4TH**	22 **20TH**
DEFENSE	340.2 **20TH**	107.8 **11TH**	232.4 **25TH**	21.8 **13TH**	40.1% **19TH**	3.4% **32ND**	16 **T-23RD**

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

DRAFT DITTY: The Seahawks only made three draft picks in 2021. But dating back to the 2012 draft, Seattle has drafted 128 players, an average of 9.1 players per year. Seattle has made eight picks in the fifth round over the past four drafts.

TOTAL PICKS: 4

TOP PICK: 32nd

CALLING THE SHOTS

General Manager
John Schneider (2010)

Head Coach
Mike Macdonald (2024)

Offensive Coordinator
Brian Fleury (2026)

Defensive Coordinator
Aden Durde (2024)

Special Teams Coordinator
Jay Harbaugh (2024)

FIVE-YEAR REPORT

Total picks: 41 (T-11th most)
Average 1st pick: 20.8 (18th)
Offensive picks: 25 (3rd)
Defensive picks: 16 (T-30th)
Specialist picks: 0 (T-17th)
Highest pick on offense:
OL Charles Cross
9th overall, 2022
Highest pick on defense:
DB Devon Witherspoon
5th overall, 2023
Last specialist pick:
P Michael Dickson
149th overall, 2018

STATUS REPORT

2025 Record: 14-3, 1st NFC West

Season Summary: After consecutive absences from the postseason, Seattle secured the No. 1 seed in the NFC, then marched through the playoffs, outscoring opponents 85-46, including a 29-13 Super Bowl victory over the New England Patriots. Wide receiver Jaxon Smith-Njigba led the league in receiving yards (1,793), and was named the AP Offensive Player of the Year, while the Seahawks defense boasted the league's stingiest unit on third down and on the scoreboard.

Offseason Overview: Super Bowl MVP Kenneth Walker III took his talents to Kansas City, and the Seahawks also lost EDGE Boye Mafe (Bengals), SAF Coby Bryant (Bears) and CB Tariq Woolen (Eagles). Seattle managed to re-sign WR Rashid Shaheed, for whom they traded two picks in this year's draft, as well as CB Josh Jobe and RT Josh Jones, among others. They also added CB Noah Igbinoghene, RB Emanuel Wilson and SAF Rodney Thomas. The Seahawks also locked up Njigba on a four-year extension that makes him the highest-paid wide receiver in the league. Klint Kubiak, the team's offensive coordinator last year, replaced Pete Carroll as head coach in Las Vegas.

SELECTION SNAPSHOT

Round 1: 32nd overall
Round 2: 64th
Round 3: 96th
Round 6: 188th (from CLE in Nick Harris deal)
Round 4: 132nd (traded to NO for Rashid Shaheed)
Round 5: 172nd (traded to NO for Rashid Shaheed)
Round 6: 213th (traded to JAX for Roy Robertson-Harris)
Round 7: 248th (traded to CLE in Harris deal)

DRAFT PLAN

Potential No. 1 target: Brandon Cisse, CB, South Carolina. Seattle could lose several members of its secondary, and we know this organization highly values traits at the cornerback position. Cisse would fit in very well.

Three-round strategy: Outside of Grey Zabel, the Super Bowl Champs' interior offensive line was an area of weakness last year. Seattle is also extremely light at running back.

Day 3 depth: The Seahawks lost from their secondary and could be in the market for both safety and cornerback. They are also always looking for more edge pass rush. A mid-round wide receiver could also be in the cards.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

	TOTAL YDS	RUSHING	PASSING	POINTS	3RD DOWN	SACKS/PASS	TURNOVERS
OFFENSE	351.4 **8TH**	123.3 **T-10TH**	228.1 **8TH**	28.4 **3RD**	39.8% **16TH**	5.6% **9TH**	28 **31ST**
DEFENSE	285.9 **6TH**	91.9 **3RD**	193.9 **10TH**	17.2 **1ST**	32.1% **1ST**	7.8% **11TH**	25 **6TH**

MOCK DRAFT Seven Rounds

The following predicts every selection in the 2026 NFL Draft. It accounts for trades that took place before March 20, but not for potential moves during the Draft:

ROUND 1

1 Las Vegas Raiders — Fernando Mendoza — QB — Indiana
There isn't much to say about this pick. It's a complete formality at this point in the process, but it should be noted that this is the right decision for the Raiders. Mendoza is worth the top overall pick in this class. He led Indiana to one of the most improbable seasons in college football history and proved he could elevate a roster. He'll be the foundational piece of the Las Vegas rebuild.

2 New York Jets — Arvell Reese — EDGE/LB — Ohio State
The Jets added some veterans at edge rusher and linebacker, but none of them project as long-term, dynamic options like Reese does. We like Reese playing off the ball, but coach Aaron Glenn is certainly creative enough to move Reese around the formation.

3 Arizona Cardinals — Francis Mauigoa — OL — Miami
Mauigoa isn't what a typical top-three tackle looks like, but the Cardinals need help at guard or tackle. While we think Mauigoa can operate at tackle, if the team wants to put him at guard, he'll be more than solid there. Releasing Kyler Murray officially puts this team in the long-term QB market, so building a wall in front of whoever ends up under center is smart.

4 Tennessee Titans — Rueben Bain Jr. — IDL — Miami
If there's a team that can look past Bain's underwhelming length, it might be the one with Robert Saleh as its head coach. Bain is a powerful, technically sound player. An outlier? Sure, but his tape is phenomenal. Pairing him with Jeffery Simmons would be so much fun. The Titans added some defensive line depth in free agency, but again, this just feels like a perfect fit.

5 New York Giants — Jeremiyah Love — RB — Notre Dame
John Harbaugh strikes us as the type of coach who won't care much for positional value. Love blew up the NFL Combine and has a long track record of success. Cam Skattebo is coming off a major injury, and Tyrone Tracy has had consistent success. This would be a luxury pick, but the Giants pairing Jaxson Dart with Love would be incredibly fun.

6 Cleveland Browns — Monroe Freeling — OT — Georgia
Freeling's stock has skyrocketed since the NFL Combine. We're not sure if his stock rises quite this high, but Cleveland needs a true, long-term left tackle. The Browns invested quite a bit in the interior of their offensive line, but tackle is still a question mark. Freeling has every tool imaginable to be that player at the NFL level.

7 Washington Commanders — Carnell Tate — WR — Ohio State
The Commanders hit the free agent edge rusher market hard, and added Leo Chenal at linebacker. Washington could use some defensive depth for sure, but its receivers room is pretty lacking other than Terry McLaurin. So, they go back to the Buckeyes well and add Tate. He's a reliable, three-level threat that should allow QB Jayden Daniels to push the ball downfield how he wants to.

8 New Orleans Saints — Jordyn Tyson — WR — Arizona State
At press time, the Saints haven't signed a single receiver in free agency, and they need one badly. Tyson's injury history might cast some doubt, but if teams are comfortable with his medicals, there's no doubt he's worth a top-10 pick in this draft. If the Tyler Shough experiment is going to work at quarterback, he'll need a lot more firepower around him.

9 Kansas City Chiefs — Mansoor Delane — CB — LSU
The Chiefs made the massive move of trading Trent McDuffie to the Rams, opening up a pretty big hole at cornerback. Delane is a perfect fit to come in and play well in his rookie season. He's got the chops to play in man coverage and is excellent at staying in phases at all three levels of the field. Kansas City needs as many young starters as possible.

10 Cincinnati Bengals — Caleb Downs — S — Ohio State
Caleb Downs is our No. 1 overall player in this class, so this is a pretty good outcome for the Bengals. Basically, our strategy with Cincinnati is to draft whoever the best available defender would be. The team has made a few nice additions on defense in free agency, but Downs is a game-changer on the back end who makes everyone's life a lot easier.

11 Miami Dolphins — Olaivavega Ioane — IOL — Penn State
Despite Miami's lack of depth on defense, this is the direction the Dolphins should go. Miami's guard play for the past three years has been truly rough. Ioane is one of the cleanest evaluations in this class. He's stout and quick as a pass blocker, and he's got enough strength to generate movement in the running game.

12 Dallas Cowboys — Sonny Styles — LB — Ohio State
This seems like a dream scenario for the Cowboys, even if it's somewhat unlikely. Styles is certainly talented enough to go higher than this, but the positional value of linebackers makes this a reasonable fall. For Dallas, Styles can serve as the anchor in the middle of the defense that has been missing much of the past few years.

13 Los Angeles Rams — Makai Lemon — WR — USC
Picking for the Rams is a little difficult because of the work they've done to remodel their secondary already. However, wide receiver remains a need, and Lemon is worthy of this selection. Davante Adams isn't getting any younger, and the Rams don't have many proven playmakers behind Puka Nacua. Lemon feels like the type of receiver who coach Sean McVay could get the most out of.

14 Baltimore Ravens — David Bailey — EDGE — Texas Tech
Funny story, the original version of this mock had the Raiders picking in this spot after the Maxx Crosby trade. That fell through, the Ravens signed Trey Hendrickson, and now David Bailey fell down the board a bit. It's pretty much the most ideal outcome the Ravens could hope for at this point in the process. Bailey has the talent to go higher, but we get surprise falls every year.

15 Tampa Bay Buccaneers — Keldric Faulk — EDGE — Auburn
Faulk won't be every team's cup of tea, but the Buccaneers tend to like tall, long edge rushers with plenty of upside. Tampa Bay has some solid edge players, but nobody with the upside to become a true dominant presence — Faulk has that. He just needs to develop a bit more as a pass rusher.

16 New York Jets — Jermod McCoy — CB — Tennessee
The Jets would've loved to see one of the top receivers fall to this spot, but it just didn't work out for them. However, McCoy's strange draft process makes him an absolute steal at this spot. He would replace Brandon Stephens, who has had a less-than-consistent career. Combine this with Reese and the team's free agent additions, and the Jets' defense looks pretty solid.

17 Detroit Lions — Spencer Fano — OT — Utah
Fano could still go in the top 10 when it's all said and done, but it seems like his stock is falling a bit. This is easily the best fit for him, as Detroit could use some help on the interior and at tackle. Fano's athletic ability and physicality also seem like a perfect scheme fit for the Lions. He would do a nice job bookending the line with Penei Sewell for the foreseeable future.

18 Minnesota Vikings — Dillon Thieneman — S — Oregon
With the Harrison Smith era likely ending, the Vikings could use another versatile and highly productive safety on the back end. Thieneman dominated the NFL Combine and has multiple years of excellent tape between Oregon and Purdue. Defensive coordinator Brian Flores could also get quite a bit out of using him near the line of scrimmage if he wanted to.

19 Carolina Panthers — Peter Woods — IDL — Clemson
Woods' stock has fallen quite a bit in the media, but the NFL doesn't always follow suit with players such as Woods. He had a down 2025 season, but he's still got a lot of starting-caliber skills, especially considering his run defense. Pairing him with Derrick Brown long-term could give Carolina one of the better one-two interior punches in the league.

20 Dallas Cowboys — Avieon Terrell — CB — Clemson
The Cowboys' cornerbacks room looks a lot better than it has in recent years, but continuing to invest in long-term options feels like a smart place to go with this pick. Terrell has a knack for making plays on the ball, and he's capable of playing inside and outside, depending on how a team views his size.

21 Pittsburgh Steelers — C.J. Allen — LB — Georgia
The Steelers have Patrick Queen and Payton Wilson in the middle of the defense, but Wilson has struggled to be a consistent contributor. Allen can come in right away and raise the Steelers' floor on that side of the ball quite a bit. Pittsburgh's top need is quarterback, but the team seems content to wait out Aaron Rodgers. At press time, he has yet to make his decision for the 2026 season.

22 Los Angeles Chargers — Kadyn Proctor — OL — Alabama
The Chargers need to add young, talented offensive linemen any way they can. With Rashawn Slater and Joe Alt holding down the tackle spots, we're predicting a position switch for Proctor on the interior. He's got a mean streak to him, and he's plenty athletic enough relative to his size. This feels like a good compromise between Jim Harbaugh and Mike McDaniel's preferences.

23 Philadelphia Eagles — T.J. Parker — EDGE — Clemson
Philadelphia's edge rusher rotation needs a little more juice, and Parker is a nice complement to many of the players already in the building. Nolan Smith, Jalyx Hunt, and Arnold Ebiketie are all speed rushers who can struggle to set the edge. Parker showed he could do that at a high level at Clemson, and he's got a nice power rushing profile to push passers toward Philly's speed rushers.

24 Cleveland Browns — Denzel Boston — WR — Washington
After adding another offensive lineman, the Browns would be smart to consider adding some more playmakers. Regardless of who starts at QB this coming season, Boston's ability to win at all three levels of the field would be a help. His massive catch radius and contested-catch prowess also make him a good option on the outside.

25 Chicago Bears — Emmanuel McNeil-Warren — SAF — Toledo
The Bears added Coby Bryant in free agency, but could use someone to play next to him after Jaquan Brisker went to the Steelers. McNeil-Warren is a fast, physical playmaker on the back end who hits like some throwback safeties from previous eras. He's also got plenty of size and the experience to play in deep zones, near the box, or in the slot. He'd be an excellent fit for this Bears defense.

26 Buffalo Bills — Kayden McDonald — IDL — Ohio State
The Bills have struggled to stop the run for a few years now, and it's been one of the reasons they've lost some big games. McDonald could come in and raise Buffalo's floor as a rookie, while complementing last year's picks at IDL in Deone Walker and T.J. Sanders. McDonald is arguably the most consistent and polished run defender in this class. It's just a matter of whether he can develop as a pass rusher.

27 San Francisco 49ers — Blake Miller — OT — Clemson
It seems like the 49ers have hit a standstill with Trent Williams, but they still need to start planning for his retirement anyway. Miller is an excellent plug-and-play option with plenty of athleticism to execute the 49ers' favorite outside concepts. This team hasn't made high-profile investments in the offensive line, but it might be time to break that trend this year.

28 Houston Texans — Max Iheanachor — OT — Arizona State
Houston has invested in its offensive line this offseason, but those investments include bringing back two players who were on the unit in 2025 and adding Braden Smith on a two-year deal. Iheanachor is a play for the future. He needs some time to develop, but he's got all the traits of a long-term option at tackle.

29 Kansas City Chiefs — Omar Cooper Jr. — WR — Indiana
Kansas City needs to figure out the skill positions. Xavier Worthy seems a bit limited, and Travis Kelce isn't getting any younger. Cooper could come in and be a high-volume target as a rookie. Most importantly, his YAC ability would hopefully take some pressure off QB Patrick Mahomes to constantly create big plays on his own. The Indiana product is tough and reliable in the middle of the field, something the Chiefs need.

30 Miami Dolphins — Kenyon Sadiq — TE — Oregon
Sadiq falling this far seems a little wild, but tight end is not a highly valued position. Plus, the Oregon product doesn't have quite the tape that players such as Colston Loveland and Tyler Warren had last season. The Dolphins already snagged our top-ranked offensive lineman to protect new quarterback Malik Willis, now they snatch him a top target. With a whopping FIVE more picks in the top 100, Miami can next address its defense.

31 New England Patriots — Akheem Mesidor — EDGE — Miami
The Patriots could use a little more juice in their pass rush, and since they're in win-now mode, Mesidor's age shouldn't bother them as much. He can be a nice pass-rush winner and an option on run downs thanks to his good size. Pairing him with Harold Landry and Dre'Mont Jones would give New England a nice little rotation of diverse skill sets.

32 Seattle Seahawks — Chase Bisontis — IOL — Texas A&M
Picking for the defending champs is no easy task. Their roster is well-rounded and quite deep. However, there was an opportunity to upgrade on Anthony Bradford at right guard, so we took it. Bisontis is an athletic pass blocker with a good run-game demeanor to open up some holes for whoever takes most of the snaps at running back next season.

ROUND 2

33 New York Jets — Ty Simpson — QB — Alabama
If Simpson doesn't sneak into Round 1, this feels like the right landing spot. The Jets bringing back Geno Smith is a cool story, but he's not the organization's long-term answer. Simpson has some holes in his game, but he has also shown enough flashes that there is reason to believe he can be a solid starting QB. For a Jets regime on the hot seat, that seems like a chance worth taking.

34 Arizona Cardinals — Colton Hood — CB — Tennessee
The Cardinals have Will Johnson at one starting cornerback spot and Denzel Burke at the other. Johnson has an injury history, and Burke projects more as a long-term backup than as a starter. Hood is a player with first-round traits who snuck into the second round, so this feels like a good fit and value for the Cardinals.

35 Tennessee Titans — Emmanuel Pregnon — IOL — Oregon
The Titans signed Cordell Volson in free agency, but he's probably not an ideal starting guard for a team with a second-year quarterback. Pregnon is a sturdy pass protector with four years of starting experience at the college level. He should be capable of playing at a solid level right away and growing into his role as a full-time starter alongside Peter Skoronski and J.C. Latham.

36 Las Vegas Raiders — K.C. Concepcion — WR — Texas A&M
The Raiders need to get Mendoza as many playmakers as possible, so he can hit the ground running as a rookie. Concepcion is a potential first-round player who fell through the cracks, but this is a good landing spot for him. The Raiders need a slot with some speed and route-running chops — two things Concepcion has in spades.

37 New York Giants — Brandon Cisse — CB — South Carolina
New York added Greg Newsome in free agency, but he has struggled pretty consistently in recent years. Cisse is an ascending cornerback with the athletic traits to be a solid starter over the long term. Pairing him with Paulson Adebo and Dru Phillips at cornerback with Jevon Holland and Tyler Nubin at safety should give the Giants a much better secondary.

38 Houston Texans — Caleb Banks — IDL — Florida
Banks takes a massive fall in our mock draft because of his injury history. He suffered another foot injury during the NFL Combine, giving him multiple foot problems over the last year. That said, Houston feels like the right place for him to come in, learn, develop, and reach his potential. The Texans wouldn't need him right away, but down the line, he could give them a level of pop they don't have on the interior.

39 Cleveland Browns — Keith Abney II — CB — Arizona State
Cleveland's defense has Denzel Ward and Tyson Campbell on the outside, but is relying on Myles Harden in the slot. Abney played great outside at Arizona State, but it wouldn't be shocking to see some teams project him into the slot at the next level. The Browns need a real QB, but there isn't one worth picking in this spot.

40 Kansas City Chiefs — Caleb Lomu — OT — Utah
Kansas City needs a future plan at tackle, and Lomu is the perfect player for that. Josh Simmons should hold down the left side, assuming he's got whatever forced him to miss a chunk of last season squared away. Jaylon Moore seems like a shaky long-term answer on the right side, though. If a team falls in love with Lomu's tools, he could go in Round 1, but he needs to add some strength before he can be relied upon.

41 Cincinnati Bengals — Lee Hunter — IDL — Texas Tech
The Bengals need all of the run-stopping power they can get. Hunter is a massive presence in the middle who dominated up front for Texas Tech this past season. He possesses good quickness to get into gaps, and he consistently resets the line of scrimmage. Getting Downs and Hunter should make the Bengals' 31st-ranked defense significantly more respectable.

42 New Orleans Saints — Chris Johnson — CB — San Diego State
After helping out Shough with a wide receiver in Round 1, the Saints select a cornerback who can start right away in Round 2. Johnson has the experience and athletic profile of a respectable outside cornerback, something the Saints need opposite Kool-Aid McKinstry. Johnson's Combine performance really quieted a lot of doubts about his profile.

43 Miami Dolphins — A.J. Haulcy — SAF — LSU
The Dolphins' safeties room is pretty much barren after the team traded away Minkah Fitzpatrick to the New York Jets. Haulcy is a ball magnet with a lot of experience playing in deep zone coverage at LSU and Houston. He would allow Dante Trader Jr. to play closer to the line of scrimmage, which is where he was most effective as a rookie in 2025.

44 New York Jets — Cashius Howell — EDGE — Texas A&M
This is a big fall for Howell, so the Jets just pull the trigger on the best player available. That's the kind of luxury you get when picking four times within the top 50. Howell is a bendy, speedy edge rusher who will get docked some points for his lack of length. Given the Jets' recent investments in the DL, he might be capable of playing a designated pass-rush role early.

45 Baltimore Ravens — Chris Bell — WR — Louisville
Baltimore's need at wide receiver feels like a running joke at this point, but that room does need a little more juice. Bell is coming off an ACL tear, but he showed an excellent ability to be a catch-and-run threat when healthy. The Ravens need that type of playmaker to pair with Zay Flowers and take pressure off Lamar Jackson.

46 Tampa Bay Buccaneers — Jake Golday — LB — Cincinnati
The Bucs could get Lavonte David back this offseason, but he's clearly thinking about retirement. Golday was misused a bit with the Bearcats, but he has the length and speed of a modern-day linebacker. Tampa Bay has really lacked an athletic presence in the middle next to David for a while now, and Golday could fill that void.

47 Indianapolis Colts — Jacob Rodriguez — LB — Texas Tech
The Colts make their first selection of this mock after trading their first-round pick at the trade deadline. The team's linebackers room is in dire straits, and Rodriguez is the best remaining option on the board. He's a little small, but his toughness, football IQ, and knack for making plays would help the Colts' defense a good bit.

48 Atlanta Falcons — R. Mason Thomas — EDGE — Oklahoma
James Pearce's off-field troubles put the Falcons back in the pass-rusher market this offseason. Thomas can provide speed off the edge and give the team a sack artist to play opposite Jalon Walker. Atlanta also brought in some solid depth pieces in free agency, so they wouldn't need Thomas to be a three-down defender right away.

49 Minnesota Vikings — Christen Miller — IDL — Georgia
Miller goes earlier than this in most mocks, but he projects as a pure nose tackle with limited pass-rush ability. That said, adding him to a defensive line that includes Jalen Redmond, Jonathan Greenard (assuming he's not traded), Dallas Turner and Andrew Van Ginkel would give the Vikings a ton of options for Flores up front. Miller just needs to find a little bit of pass-rush juice to become a three-down player in the future.

50 Detroit Lions — Zion Young — EDGE — Missouri
The Lions have been looking for a pass rusher to pair with Aidan Hutchinson for a while now. Young might not be the dynamic presence that some are craving, but his tough, physical, power-rushing profile matches what the Lions have pursued under coach Dan Campbell. Young's pass-rush production took a jump in his final season, so there's reason to believe in his upside.

51 Carolina Panthers — Chris Brazzell II — WR — Tennessee
The Panthers have solid wide receiver options in Tetairoa McMillan and Jalen Coker, but they lack a true vertical-speed threat. Xavier Legette never had that profile coming out of school, and he has struggled a bit anyway. Brazzell is a burner on the back end who will threaten defenses and create a lot of space for McMillan and Coker to operate in the intermediate area of the field.

52 Green Bay Packers — Davison Igbinosun — CB — Ohio State
This is a small reach, but the Packers' cornerbacks room is lacking solid long-term options in a big way, and Igbinosun fits their very picky thresholds. The former Buckeye is a well-built, physical outside cornerback who has made great strides in improving his technique and reducing penalties in recent seasons.

53 Pittsburgh Steelers — Germie Bernard — WR — Alabama
The Steelers have D.K. Metcalf and Michael Pittman on the outside, but could use a more traditional slot option to operate in the short area of the field. Bernard is the perfect player for what role, thanks to his reliable hands, solid route running, and football IQ. Pittman isn't really a long-term fix either, so Bernard's role could grow in future seasons.

54 Philadelphia Eagles — Max Klare — TE — Ohio State
Dallas Goedert is on a one-year deal, so an investment in the tight end position makes a lot of sense. Klare didn't quite have the breakout campaign he was hoping for with the Buckeyes, but it's pretty clear on tape he has stating-caliber traits as a pass catcher and blocker. Philadelphia feels like a place that would use him well.

55 Los Angeles Chargers — Malachi Lawrence — EDGE — Central Florida
The Chargers don't have many long-term options on the edge, outside of Tuli Tuipulotu. Lawrence dominated the Shrine Bowl and blew up the Combine, putting him firmly on the media's radar. However, given how well all of that translates to his tape, the NFL is likely already pretty high on him. He's got a few quality pass-rush moves already, and he's got plenty of speed to bend the edge and threaten tackles consistently.

56 Jacksonville Jaguars — D'Angelo Ponds — CB — Indiana
This is Jacksonville's first pick, and it's using it on an impact player. With Travis Hunter expected to play more receiver this coming season, cornerback becomes a position of need. Ponds is undersized, but he's technically sound, smart, and highly competitive. He should be capable of making an impact for a team looking to win in 2026.

57 Chicago Bears — Domonique Orange — IDL — Iowa State
The Bears don't really have a long-term interior defensive lineman on the roster right now. Gervon Dexter might be one, but they're pairing him with Grady Jarrett and Neville Gallimore right now. Orange can be a good sub-package player as a rookie before stepping into a bigger role when the Bears need to move on.

58 San Francisco 49ers — Gabe Jacas — EDGE — Illinois
Jacas had a nice pre-draft process, especially with how well he performed at the Senior Bowl. He doesn't have the elite speed and bend compared to some of the players picked ahead of him, so it wouldn't be shocking if he fell this far. San Francisco needs to find more pass rush up front, and Jacas should provide some value there.

59 Houston Texans — Gennings Dunker — IOL — Iowa
We're going back to the offensive line well in Houston, where Dunker could be a nice replacement for Jarrett Patterson at left guard. He is a physical player who does his best work in the running game. Houston has missed that across the last couple of seasons, so Dunker would help develop a new edge on offense.

60 Chicago Bears — Sam Hecht — IOL — Kansas State
This isn't the best center class in the world, but Hecht might be the first one off the board. The Bears traded for Garrett Bradbury this offseason, but getting them a more long-term option feels like a good bet, especially considering this is their third pick in the draft. Center is an important position to coach Ben Johnson, and Hecht has all the traits of a long-term starter.

61 Los Angeles Rams — Josiah Trotter — LB — Missouri
The Rams' linebackers room isn't bad, but they could use a hammer like Trotter in the middle to help round things out. He is still young and could develop into a better coverage player over time. At worst, he's a good run defender on a team that likes to play a lot of light boxes.

62 Denver Broncos — Anthony Hill Jr. — LB — Texas
The Broncos might be the toughest team to make picks for because of how well they've built up their roster in recent seasons. Linebacker is a position that seems like it could use a little future proofing, and Hill has the skills to be a successful three-down player in Denver. He didn't quite reach the level some expected with the Longhorns, but there's no doubt he is capable of making plenty of plays when he's seeing the game quickly.

63 New England Patriots — Malachi Fields — WR — Notre Dame
The Patriots have a lot of shifty receivers and just added Romeo Doubs via free agency. Getting quarterback Drake Maye another ball winner opposite of Kayshon Boutte feels like it would round out New England's receivers room nicely. The team could also use Fields to slowly phase out Mack Hollins from his blocking roles in the slot.

64 Seattle Seahawks — Jadarian Price — RB — Notre Dame
Seattle lost Kenneth Walker in free agency, and Zach Charbonnet is coming off an injury. Price was overshadowed by Love at Notre Dame, but he's a talented back in his own right. He's got solid vision and the ability to pop some big runs with solid burst through the hole. He needs to develop as a third-down option, but he also wasn't given a ton of those chances in college behind Love.

ROUND 3

65) Cardinals – Garrett Nussmeier, QB, LSU
66) Titans – Jonah Coleman, RB, Washington
67) Raiders – Darrell Jackson Jr., IDL, Florida State
68) Eagles – Skyler Bell, WR, UConn
69) Texans – Keionte Scott, DB, Miami
70) Browns – Genesis Smith, SAF, Arizona
71) Commanders – Joshua Josephs, EDGE, Tennessee
72) Bengals – Treydan Stukes, DB, Arizona
73) Saints – Gracen Halton, IDL, Oklahoma
74) Chiefs – Eli Stowers, TE, Vanderbilt
75) Dolphins – Dani Dennis-Sutton, EDGE, Penn St.
76) Steelers – Drew Allar, QB, Penn State
77) Buccaneers – Sam Roush, TE, Stanford
78) Colts – Kamari Ramsey, SAF, USC
79) Falcons – Elijah Sarratt, WR, Indiana
80) Ravens – Connor Lew, IOL, Auburn
81) Jaguars – DeMonte Capehart, IDL, Clemson
82) Vikings – Mike Washington Jr., RB, Arkansas
83) Panthers – Caleb Tiernan, OL, Northwestern
84) Packers – J.C. Davis, OT, Illinois
85) Steelers – Derrick Moore, EDGE, Michigan
86) Chargers – Zakee Wheatley, SAF, Penn State
87) Dolphins – Will Lee III, CB, Texas A&M
88) Jaguars – L.T. Overton, EDGE, Alabama
89) Bears – Deion Burks, WR, Oklahoma
90) Dolphins – Ted Hurst, WR, Georgia State
91) Bills – Jalen Farmer, IOL, Kentucky
92) Cowboys – Keyron Crawford, EDGE, Auburn
93) Rams – Jude Bowry, OT, Boston College
94) Dolphins – Bryce Lance, WR, North Dakota State
95) Patriots – Markel Bell, OT, Miami
96) Seahawks – Antonio Williams, WR, Clemson
97) Vikings – Kyle Louis, LB/SAF, Pittsburgh
98) Eagles – Keylan Rutledge, IOL, Georgia Tech
99) Steelers – Billy Schrauth, IOL, Notre Dame
100) Jaguars – Emmett Johnson, RB, Nebraska

ROUND 4

101) Titans – Jake Slaughter, IOL, Florida
102) Raiders – Devin Moore, CB, Florida
103) Jets – De'Zhaun Stribling, WR, Mississippi
104) Cardinals – Keyshaun Elliott, LB, Arizona State
105) Giants – C.J. Daniels, WR, Miami
106) Texans – Jack Endries, TE, Texas
107) Browns – Zachariah Branch, WR, Georgia
108) Broncos – Jaishawn Barham, EDGE, Michigan
109) Chiefs – Dontay Corleone, IDL, Cincinnati
110) Bengals – Romello Height, EDGE, Texas Tech
111) Broncos – Jalon Kilgore, DB, South Carolina
112) Cowboys – Brian Parker II, OT, Duke
113) Colts – Bryce Boettcher, LB, Oregon
114) Eagles – Tyreak Sapp, EDGE, Florida
115) Ravens – Michael Trigg, TE, Baylor
116) Buccaneers – Daylen Everette, CB, Georgia
117) Raiders – Bud Clark, SAF, TCU
118) Lions – Aiden Fisher, LB, Indiana
119) Panthers – Chandler Rivers, CB, Duke
120) Packers – Rayshaun Benny, IDL, Michigan
121) Steelers – Dametrious Crownover, OT, Texas A&M
122) Falcons – Chris McClellan, IDL, Missouri
123) Chargers – Tim Keenan III, IDL, Alabama
124) Jaguars – Anthony Lucas, EDGE, USC
125) Patriots – Malik Muhammad, CB, Texas
126) Bills – Cole Wisniewski, SAF, Texas Tech
127) 49ers – Beau Stephens, IOL, Iowa
128) Lions – Deontae Lawson, LB, Alabama
129) Bears – Mikail Kamara, EDGE, Indiana
130) Dolphins – Michael Taaffe, SAF, Texas
131) Patriots – Trey Zuhn III, OL, Texas A&M
132) Saints – Kaleb Elarms-Orr, LB, TCU
133) 49ers – Kage Casey, OL, Boise State
134) Raiders – Cyrus Allen, WR, CIN
135) Steelers – Brenen Thompson, WR, Mississippi St.
136) Saints – Nadame Tucker, EDGE, W. Michigan
137) Eagles – Julian Neal, CB, Arkansas
138) 49ers – Justin Joly, TE, North Carolina State
139) 49ers – Isaiah World, OT, Oregon
140) Jets – Kevin Coleman Jr., WR, Missouri

ROUND 5

141) Texans – Reggie Virgil, WR, Texas Tech
142) Titans – Dallen Bentley, TE, Utah
143) Cardinals – Albert Regis, IDL, Texas A&M
144) Titans – Xavian Sorey Jr., LB, Arkansas
145) Giants – Jeremiah Wright, IOL, Auburn
146) Browns – Carson Beck, QB, Miami
147) Commanders – Charles Demmings, CB, S.F Austin
148) Chiefs – Tacario Davis, CB, WAS
149) Browns – Kaleb Proctor, IDL, SE Louisiana
150) Saints – Devon Marshall, CB, N.C. State
151) Dolphins – Eli Raridon, TE, Notre Dame
152) Cowboys – Seth McGowan, RB, Kentucky
153) Eagles – V.J. Payne, SAF, Kansas State
154) Ravens – Zane Durant, IDL, Penn State
155) Buccaneers – Ja'Kobi Lane, WR, USC
156) Colts – Eric McAlister, WR, TCU
157) Lions – Marlin Klein, TE, Michigan
158) Panthers – Jager Burton, IOL, Kentucky
159) Panthers – Nicholas Singleton, RB, Penn State
160) Packers – Jadon Canady, CB, Oregon
161) Steelers – Skyler Gill-Howard, IDL, Texas Tech
162) Ravens – Ephesians Prysock, CB, WAS
163) Vikings – Logan Jones, IOL, Iowa
164) Jaguars – Cade Klubnik, QB, Clemson
165) Bills – Max Llewellyn, EDGE, Iowa
166) Jaguars – Taurean York, LB, Texas A&M
167) Texans – Caden Curry, EDGE, Ohio State
168) Bills – Caleb Douglas, WR, Texas Tech
169) Chiefs – Kaytron Allen, RB, Penn State
170) Broncos – Jalen Stroman, SAF, Notre Dame
171) Patriots – Landon Robinson, IDL, Navy
172) Saints – Austin Barber, OT, Florida
173) Ravens – Nate Boerkircher, TE, Texas A&M
174) Ravens – D.J. Campbell, IOL, Texas
175) Raiders – Le'Veon Moss, RB, Texas A&M
176) Chiefs – Drew Shelton, OT, Penn State
177) Cowboys – Jeff Caldwell, WR, CIN
178) Eagles – Diego Pounds, OT, Mississippi
179) Jets – Owen Heinecke, LB, Oklahoma
180) Cowboys – Dae'Quan Wright, TE, Mississippi
181) Lions – Cole Payton, QB, North Dakota State

ROUND 6

182) Bills – Quintayvious Hutchins, EDGE, Boston Coll.
183) Cardinals – Eric Rivers, WR, Georgia Tech
184) Titans – Demond Claiborne, RB, Wake Forest
185) Raiders – Thaddeus Dixon, CB, North Carolina
186) Giants – Aamil Wagner, OT, Notre Dame
187) Commanders – Hezekiah Masses, CB, California
188) Seahawks – Red Murdock, LB, Buffalo
189) Bengals – Joe Royer, TE, CIN
190) Saints – Zxavian Harris, IDL, Mississippi
191) Patriots – Kaelon Black, RB, Indiana
192) Giants – Trey Moore, LB, Texas
193) Giants – Bishop Fitzgerald, S, USC
194) Titans – Ar'maj Reed-Adams, IOL, Texas A&M
195) Buccaneers – Nolan Rucci, OT, Penn State
196) Vikings – Ahmari Harvey, CB, Georgia Tech
197) Eagles – Robert Spears-Jennings, SAF, Oklahoma
198) Patriots – Harold Perkins, LB, LSU
199) Bengals – Pat Coogan, IOL, Indiana
200) Panthers – George Gumbs Jr., EDGE, Florida
201) Packers – Kobe Baynes, IOL, Kansas
202) Patriots – Aaron Aaronson, WR, LSU
203) Jaguars – Oscar Delp, TE, Georgia
204) Chargers – Fa'alili Fa'amoe, OL, Wake Forest
205) Lions – Jaeden Roberts, IOL, Alabama
206) Browns – Lorenzo Styles Jr., SAF, Ohio State
207) Rams – Vincent Anthony Jr., EDGE, Duke
208) Raiders – Josh Cuevas, TE, Alabama
209) Commanders – Jimmy Rolder, LB, Michigan
210) Chiefs – Kendrick Law, WR, Kentucky
211) Ravens – John Michael Gyllenborg, TE, Wyoming
212) Patriots – Mason Reiger, EDGE, Wisconsin
213) Lions – T.J. Hall, CB, Iowa
214) Colts – J'Mari Taylor, RB, Virginia
215) Falcons – Jaydn Ott, RB, Oklahoma
216) Steelers – Parker Brailsford, IOL, Alabama

ROUND 7

217) Cardinals – Miles Kitselman, TE, Tennessee
218) Cowboys – Andre Fuller, CB, Toledo
219) Raiders – Isaiah Nwokobia, SAF, SMU
220) Bills – Cole Brevard, IDL, Texas
221) Bengals – Lander Barton, LB, Utah
222) Lions – Jakobe Thomas, SAF, Miami
223) Commanders – Tyren Montgomery, WR, J. Carroll
224) Steelers – Eric Gentry, LB, USC
225) Titans – Domani Jackson, CB, Alabama
226) Bengals – Collin Wright, CB, Stanford
227) Dolphins – Taylen Green, QB, Arkansas
228) Jets – Tanner Koziol, TE, HOU
229) Buccaneers – Jack Kelly, LB, BYU
230) Steelers – Eli Heidenreich, FB, Navy
231) Falcons – Chase Roberts, WR, BYU
232) Rams – Zavion Thomas, WR, LSU
233) Jaguars – Justin Jefferson, LB, Alabama
234) Vikings – Desmond Reid, RB, Pittsburgh
235) Vikings – Colbie Young, WR, Georgia
236) Packers – Josh Cameron, WR, Baylor
237) Steelers – D.J. Harvey, CB, USC
238) Dolphins – Dane Key, WR, Nebraska
239) Bears – Deven Eastern, IDL, Minnesota
240) Jaguars – Kaden Wetjen, WR, Iowa
241) Bears – Roman Hemby, RB, Indiana
242) Jets – Robert Henry, RB, UTSA
243) Texans – Vinny Anthony II, WR, Wisconsin
244) Vikings – T.J. Guy, EDGE, Michigan
245) Jaguars – DeVonta Smith, CB, Notre Dame
246) Broncos – James Thompson Jr., IDL, Illinois
247) Patriots – Jalen Catalon, SAF, Missouri
248) Browns – Scooby Williams, LB, Texas A&M
249) Colts – Joshua Braun, IOL, Kentucky
250) Ravens – Jeadyn Lukus, CB, Clemson
251) Rams – Ceyair Wright, CB, Nebraska
252) Rams – Louis Moore, SAF, Indiana
253) Ravens – Sawyer Robertson, QB, Baylor
254) Colts – Tyreek Chappell, CB, Texas A&M
255) Packers – Logan Fano, EDGE, Utah
256) Broncos – Josh Moten, CB, Southern Miss.
257) Broncos – Patrick Payton, EDGE, LSU

MOCK DRAFT Team By Team

Arizona Cardinals
1 (3) Francis Mauigoa, OT/IOL, Miami
2 (34) Colton Hood, CB, Tennessee
3 (65) Garrett Nussmeier, QB, LSU
4 (104) Keyshaun Elliott, LB, Arizona State
5 (143) Albert Regis, IDL, Texas A&M
6 (183) Eric Rivers, WR, Georgia Tech
7 (217) Miles Kitselman, TE, Tennessee

Atlanta Falcons
2 (48) R. Mason Thomas, EDGE, Oklahoma
3 (79) Elijah Sarratt, WR, Indiana
4 (122) Chris McClellan, IDL, Missouri
6 (215) Jaydn Ott, RB, Oklahoma
7 (231) Chase Roberts, WR, BYU

Baltimore Ravens
1 (14) David Bailey, EDGE, Texas Tech
2 (45) Chris Bell, WR, Louisville
3 (80) Connor Lew, IOL, Auburn
4 (115) Michael Trigg, TE, Baylor
5 (154) Zane Durant, IDL, Penn State
5 (162) Ephesians Prysock, CB, Washington
5 (173) Nate Boerkircher, TE, Texas A&M
5 (174) D.J. Campbell, IOL, Texas
6 (211) John Michael Gyllenborg, TE, Wyoming
7 (250) Jeadyn Lukus, CB, Clemson
7 (253) Sawyer Robertson, QB, Baylor

Buffalo Bills
1 (26) Kayden McDonald, IDL, Ohio State
3 (91) Jalen Farmer, IOL, Kentucky
4 (126) Cole Wisniewski, SAF, Texas Tech
5 (165) Max Llewellyn, EDGE, Iowa
5 (168) Caleb Douglas, WR, Texas Tech
6 (182) Quintayvious Hutchins, EDGE, Boston College
7 (220) Cole Brevard, IDL, Texas

Carolina Panthers
1 (19) Peter Woods, IDL, Clemson
2 (51) Chris Brazzell II, WR, Tennessee
3 (83) Caleb Tiernan, OL, Northwestern
4 (119) Chandler Rivers, CB, Duke
5 (158) Jager Burton, IOL, Kentucky
5 (159) Nicholas Singleton, RB, Penn State
6 (200) George Gumbs Jr., EDGE, Florida

Chicago Bears
1 (25) Emmanuel McNeil-Warren, SAF, Toledo
2 (57) Domonique Orange, IDL, Iowa State
2 (60) Sam Hecht, IOL, Kansas State
3 (89) Deion Burks, WR, Oklahoma
4 (129) Mikail Kamara, EDGE, Indiana
7 (239) Deven Eastern, IDL, Minnesota
7 (241) Roman Hemby, RB, Indiana

GENNINGS DUNKER

Cincinnati Bengals
1 (10) Caleb Downs, SAF, Ohio State
2 (41) Lee Hunter, IDL, Texas Tech
3 (72) Treydan Stukes, DB, Arizona
4 (110) Romello Height, EDGE, Texas Tech
6 (189) Joe Royer, TE, Cincinnati
6 (199) Pat Coogan, IOL, Indiana
7 (221) Lander Barton, LB, Utah
7 (226) Collin Wright, CB, Stanford

Cleveland Browns
1 (6) Monroe Freeling, OT, Georgia
1 (24) Denzel Boston, WR, Washington
2 (39) Keith Abney II, CB, Arizona State
3 (70) Genesis Smith, SAF, Arizona
4 (107) Zachariah Branch, WR, Georgia
5 (146) Carson Beck, QB, Miami
5 (149) Kaleb Proctor, IDL, Southeastern Louisiana
6 (206) Lorenzo Styles Jr., SAF, Ohio State
7 (248) Scooby Williams, LB, Texas A&M

Dallas Cowboys
1 (12) Sonny Styles, LB, Ohio State
1 (20) Avieon Terrell, CB, Clemson
3 (93) Keyron Crawford, EDGE, Auburn
4 (112) Brian Parker II, OT, Duke
5 (152) Seth McGowan, RB, Kentucky
5 (177) Jeff Caldwell, WR, Cincinnati
5 (180) Dae'Quan Wright, TE, Mississippi
7 (218) Andre Fuller, CB, Toledo

Denver Broncos
2 (62) Anthony Hill Jr., LB, Texas
4 (108) Jaishawn Barham, EDGE, Michigan
4 (111) Jalon Kilgore, DB, South Carolina
5 (170) Jalen Stroman, SAF, Notre Dame
7 (246) James Thompson Jr., IDL, Illinois
7 (256) Josh Moten, CB, Southern Miss
7 (257) Patrick Payton, EDGE, LSU

Detroit Lions
1 (17) Spencer Fano, OT, Utah
2 (50) Zion Young, EDGE, Missouri
4 (118) Aiden Fisher, LB, Indiana
4 (128) Deontae Lawson, LB, Alabama
5 (157) Marlin Klein, TE, Michigan
5 (181) Cole Payton, QB, North Dakota State
6 (205) Jaeden Roberts, IOL, Alabama
6 (213) T.J. Hall, CB, Iowa
7 (232) Jakobe Thomas, SAF, Miami

Green Bay Packers
2 (52) Davison Igbinosun, CB, Ohio State
3 (84) J.C. Davis, OT, Illinois
4 (120) Rayshaun Benny, IDL, Michigan
5 (160) Jadon Canady, CB, Oregon
6 (201) Kobe Baynes, IOL, Kansas
7 (236) Josh Cameron, WR, Baylor
7 (255) Logan Fano, EDGE, Utah

Houston Texans
1 (28) Max Iheanachor, OT, Arizona State
2 (38) Caleb Banks, IDL, Florida
2 (59) Gennings Dunker, IOL, Iowa
3 (69) Keionte Scott, DB, Miami
4 (106) Jack Endries, TE, Texas
5 (141) Reggie Virgil, WR, Texas Tech
5 (167) Caden Curry, EDGE, Ohio State
7 (243) Vinny Anthony II, WR, Wisconsin

Indianapolis Colts
2 (47) Jacob Rodriguez, LB, Texas Tech
3 (78) Kamari Ramsey, SAF, USC
4 (113) Bryce Boettcher, LB, Oregon
5 (156) Eric McAlister, WR, TCU
6 (214) J'Mari Taylor, RB, Virginia
7(249) Joshua Braun, IOL, Kentucky
7 (254) Tyreek Chappell, CB, Texas A&M

Jacksonville Jaguars
2 (56) D'Angelo Ponds, CB, Indiana
3 (81) DeMonte Capehart, IDL, Clemson
3 (88) L.T. Overton, EDGE, Alabama
3 (100) Emmett Johnson, RB, Nebraska
4 (124) Anthony Lucas, EDGE, USC
5 (164) Cade Klubnik, QB, Clemson
5 (166) Taurean York, LB, Texas A&M
6 (203) Oscar Delp, TE, Georgia
7 (233) Justin Jefferson, LB, Alabama
7 (240) Kaden Wetjen, WR, Iowa
7 (245) DeVonta Smith, CB, Notre Dame

Kansas City Chiefs
1 (9) Mansoor Delane, CB, LSU
1 (29) Omar Cooper Jr., WR, Indiana
2 (40) Caleb Lomu, OT, Utah
3 (74) Eli Stowers, TE, Vanderbilt
4 (109) Dontay Corleone, IDL, Cincinnati
5 (148) Tacario Davis, CB, Washington
5 (169) Kaytron Allen, RB, Penn State
5 (176) Drew Shelton, OT, Penn State
6 (210) Kendrick Law, WR, Kentucky

Las Vegas Raiders
1 (1) Fernando Mendoza, QB, Indiana
2 (36) K.C. Concepcion, WR, Texas A&M
3 (67) Darrell Jackson Jr., IDL, Florida State
4 (102) Devin Moore, CB, Florida

4 (117) Bud Clark, SAF, TCU
4 (134) Cyrus Allen, WR, Cincinnati
5 (175) Le'Veon Moss, RB, Texas A&M
6 (185) Thaddeus Dixon, CB, North Carolina
6 (208) Josh Cuevas, TE, Alabama
7 (219) Isaiah Nwokobia, SAF, SMU

Los Angeles Chargers
1 (22) Kadyn Proctor, OL, Alabama
2 (55) Malachi Lawrence, EDGE, UCF
3 (86) Zakee Wheatley, SAF, Penn State
4 (123) Tim Keenan III, IDL, Alabama
6 (204) Fa'alili Fa'amoe, OL, Wake Forest

Los Angeles Rams
1 (13) Makai Lemon, WR, USC
2 (61) Josiah Trotter, LB, Missouri
3 (93) Jude Bowry, OT, Boston College
6 (207) Vincent Anthony Jr., EDGE, Duke
7 (232) Zavion Thomas, WR, LSU
7 (251) Ceyair Wright, CB, Nebraska
7 (252) Louis Moore, SAF, Indiana

Miami Dolphins
1 (11) Olaivavega Ioane, IOL, Penn State
1 (30) Kenyon Sadiq, TE, Oregon
2 (43) A.J. Haulcy, SAF, LSU
3 (75) Dani Dennis-Sutton, EDGE, Penn State
3 (87) Will Lee III, CB, Texas A&M
3 (90) Ted Hurst, WR, Georgia State
3 (94) Bryce Lance, WR, North Dakota State
4 (111) Michael Taaffe, SAF, Texas
5 (151) Eli Raridon, TE, Notre Dame
7 (227) Taylen Green, QB, Arkansas
7 (238) Dane Key, WR, Nebraska

Minnesota Vikings
1 (18) Dillon Thieneman, S, Oregon
2 (49) Christen Miller, IDL, Georgia
3 (82) Mike Washington Jr., RB, Arkansas
3 (97) Kyle Louis, LB/SAF, Pittsburgh
5 (163) Logan Jones, IOL, Iowa
6 (196) Ahmari Harvey, CB, Georgia Tech
7 (234) Desmond Reid, RB, Pittsburgh
7 (235) Colbie Young, WR, Georgia
7 (244) T.J. Guy, EDGE, Michigan

New England Patriots
1 (31) Akheem Mesidor, EDGE, Miami
2 (63) Malachi Fields, WR, Notre Dame
3 (95) Markel Bell, OT, Miami
4 (125) Malik Muhammad, CB, Texas
4 (131) Trey Zuhn III, OL, Texas A&M
5 (171) Landon Robinson, IDL, Navy
6 (191) Kaelon Black, RB, Indiana
6 (198) Harold Perkins, LB, LSU
6 (202) Aaron Aaronson, WR, LSU
6 (212) Mason Reiger, EDGE, Wisconsin
7 (247) Jalen Catalon, SAF, Missouri

New Orleans Saints
1 (8) Jordyn Tyson, WR, Arizona State
2 (42) Chris Johnson, CB, San Diego State
3 (73) Gracen Halton, IDL, Oklahoma
4 (132) Kaleb Elarms-Orr, LB, TCU
4 (136) Nadame Tucker, EDGE, Western Michigan
5 (150) Devon Marshall, CB, N.C. State
5 (172) Austin Barber, OT, Florida
6 (190) Zxavian Harris, IDL, Mississippi

New York Giants
1 (5) Jeremiyah Love, RB, Notre Dame
2 (37) Brandon Cisse, CB, South Carolina
4 (105) C.J. Daniels, WR, Miami
5 (145) Jeremiah Wright, IOL, Auburn
6 (186) Aamil Wagner, OT, Notre Dame
6 (192) Trey Moore, LB, Texas
6 (193) Bishop Fitzgerald, SAF, USC

New York Jets
1 (2) Arvell Reese, EDGE/LB, Ohio State
1 (16) Jermod McCoy, CB, Tennessee
2 (33) Ty Simpson, QB, Alabama
2 (44) Cashius Howell, EDGE, Texas A&M
4 (103) De'Zhaun Stribling, WR, Mississippi
4 (140) Kevin Coleman Jr., LB Arkansas
5 (179) Owen Heinecke, LB, Oklahoma
7 (228) Tanner Koziol, TE, Houston
7 (242) Robert Henry, RB, UTSA

Philadelphia Eagles
1 (23) T.J. Parker, EDGE, Clemson
2 (54) Max Klare, TE, Ohio State
3 (68) Skyler Bell, WR, UConn
3 (98) Keylan Rutledge, IOL, Georgia Tech
4 (114) Tyreak Sapp, EDGE, Florida
4 (137) Julian Neal, CB, Arkansas
5 (153) V.J. Payne, SAF, Kansas State
5 (178) Diego Pounds, OT, Mississippi
6 (197) Robert Spears-Jennings, SAF, Oklahoma

Pittsburgh Steelers
1 (21) C.J. Allen, LB, Georgia
2 (53) Germie Bernard, WR, Alabama
3 (76) Drew Allar, QB, Penn State
3 (85) Derrick Moore, EDGE, Michigan
3 (99) Billy Schrauth, IOL, Notre Dame
4 (121) Dametrious Crownover, OT, Texas A&M
4 (135) Brenen Thompson, WR, Mississippi State
5 (161) Skyler Gill-Howard, IDL, Texas Tech
6 (216) Parker Brailsford, IOL, Alabama
7 (224) Eric Gentry, LB, USC
7 (230) Eli Heidenreich, FB, Navy
7 (237) D.J. Harvey, CB, USC

San Francisco 49ers
1 (27) Blake Miller, OT, Clemson
2 (58) Gabe Jacas, EDGE, Illinois
4 (127) Beau Stephens, IOL, Iowa
4 (133) Kage Casey, OL, Boise State
4 (138) Justin Joly, TE, N.C. State
4 (139) Isaiah World, OT, Oregon

Seattle Seahawks
1 (32) Chase Bisontis, IOL, Texas A&M
2 (64) Jadarian Price, RB, Notre Dame
3 (96) Antonio Williams, WR, Clemson
6 (188) Red Murdock, LB, Buffalo

Tampa Bay Buccaneers
1 (15) Keldric Faulk, EDGE, Auburn
2 (46) Jake Golday, LB, Cincinnati
3 (77) Sam Roush, TE, Stanford
4 (116) Daylen Everette, CB, Georgia
5 (155) Ja'Kobi Lane, WR, USC
6 (195) Nolan Rucci, OT, Penn State
7 (229) Jack Kelly, LB, BYU

Tennessee Titans
1 (4) Rueben Bain Jr., IDL, Miami
2 (35) Emmanuel Pregnon, IOL, Oregon
3 (66) Jonah Coleman, RB, Washington
4 (101) Jake Slaughter, IOL, Florida
5 (142) Dallen Bentley, TE, Utah
5 (144) Xavian Sorey Jr., LB, Arkansas
6 (184) Demond Claiborne, RB, Wake Forest
6 (194) Ar'maj Reed-Adams, IOL, Texas A&M
7 (225) Domani Jackson, CB, Alabama

Washington Commanders
1 (7) Carnell Tate, WR, Ohio State
3 (71) Joshua Josephs, EDGE, Tennessee
5 (147) Charles Demmings, CB, Stephen F. Austin
6 (187) Hezekiah Masses, CB, California
6 (209) Jimmy Rolder, LB, Michigan
7 (223) Tyren Montgomery, WR, John Carroll

CASHIUS HOWELL

Linemen make leap on second look

The 2025 class ended up subverting expectations. It was billed as a class with impressive defensive talent and lackluster quarterback options. The jury is still out on the quarterbacks, but there's no doubt players such as Tyler Shough and Jaxson Dart overperformed. On the flip side, some of the defenders struggled in their first year. Here's how we'd reimagine the 2025 draft knowing what we know now:

ARMAND MEMBOU

1. Tennessee Titans

Original Pick: Cam Ward, QB, Miami
Redraft pick: Ward

Ward's numbers weren't pretty last season, but he didn't have much support at receiver. Plus, the Titans fired head coach Brian Callahan in October after he handed off play-calling duties to Bo Hardegree. Ward showed enough on tape that Tennessee should feel good about him in a more stable environment.

2. Jacksonville Jaguars

Original Pick: Travis Hunter, WR/CB, Colorado
Redraft pick: Hunter

Hunter's season ended early due to a knee injury, but the flashes he showed are enough for Jacksonville to still buy into his upside. The team is expected to play him more at cornerback this coming season, which was his better spot in college.

3. New York Giants

Original Pick: Abdul Carter, Edge, Penn State
Redraft pick: Jaxson Dart, QB, Mississippi

Carter had a good end to the season, but if the Giants want to stick with Dart at quarterback, they'll have to select him here. Dart showed the arm talent, toughness, and mobility to be a solid NFL starter. The big question is whether he can learn to protect himself as a runner.

4. New England Patriots

Original Pick: Will Campbell, OT, LSU
Redraft pick: Armand Membou, OT, Missouri

Campbell wasn't as bad as his Super Bowl performance all season, but Membou was clearly better throughout 2025. The Missouri product was an excellent pass and run blocker for the Jets, something New England needs to build around quarterback Drake Maye.

5. Cleveland Browns

Original Pick: Mason Graham, IDL, Michigan
Redraft pick: Abdul Carter, Edge, Penn State

With the Giants going a different direction at No. 2, it allows the Browns to pair Carter with Myles Garrett. Carter got off to a slow start, but improved a lot down the stretch, showing the athletic ability that got him selected so high in the first place.

6. Las Vegas Raiders

Original Pick: Ashton Jeanty, RB, Boise State
Redraft pick: Kelvin Banks, OT, Texas

Banks quietly had a great season for the Saints, and the Raiders' offensive line did not perform well in 2025. That's part of the reason Jeanty underperformed, and we believe in the positional value of the offensive line.

7. New York Jets

Original Pick: Armand Membou, OT, Missouri
Redraft pick: Tyler Shough, QB, Louisville

Shough is one of the biggest risers in this redraft, and it's a gift to the Jets. New York invested in Justin Fields last offseason, but when he struggled, there was no long-term option to replace him. Shough showed a ton of promise in the second half of the season for New Orleans.

8. Carolina Panthers

Original Pick: Tetairoa McMillan, WR, Arizona
Redraft pick: McMillan

The Panthers nailed this pick. McMillan won the Offensive Rookie of the Year after catching 70 passes for 1,014 yards and seven touchdowns. McMillan is a potential long-term WR1, so there's no reason to make a change.

9. New Orleans Saints

Original Pick: Kelvin Banks, OT, Texas
Redraft pick: Will Campbell, OT, LSU

The Saints probably suffer the most in this exercise, but getting Campbell is still a good outcome. He had some struggles with power rushers, but he was mostly solid during the Patriots' run to the AFC East title.

10. Chicago Bears

Original Pick: Colston Loveland, TE, Michigan
Redraft pick: Loveland

Loveland came on in a big way toward the end of the season. He finished with 58 catches for 713 yards and six touchdowns. He made a bunch of clutch catches and is a perfect fit for coach Ben Johnson's offense.

11. San Francisco 49ers

Original Pick: Mykel Williams, Edge, Georgia
Redraft pick: Emeka Egbuka, WR, Ohio State

Williams played in just nine games last season and wasn't overly productive. Egbuka proved he can be a reliable option early in his rookie campaign, and the 49ers clearly missed a consistent receiving threat without Brandon Aiyuk in the fold.

12. Dallas Cowboys

Original Pick: Tyler Booker, IOL, Alabama
Redraft pick: Ashton Jeanty, RB, Boise State

Booker was solid for the Cowboys last season, but Jeanty seems like the quintessential Jerry Jones pick. Running back is still a need for the Cowboys, so it wouldn't be totally out of left field. Plus, Dallas' offensive line would've given Jeanty more of a chance to produce as a rookie.

13. Miami Dolphins

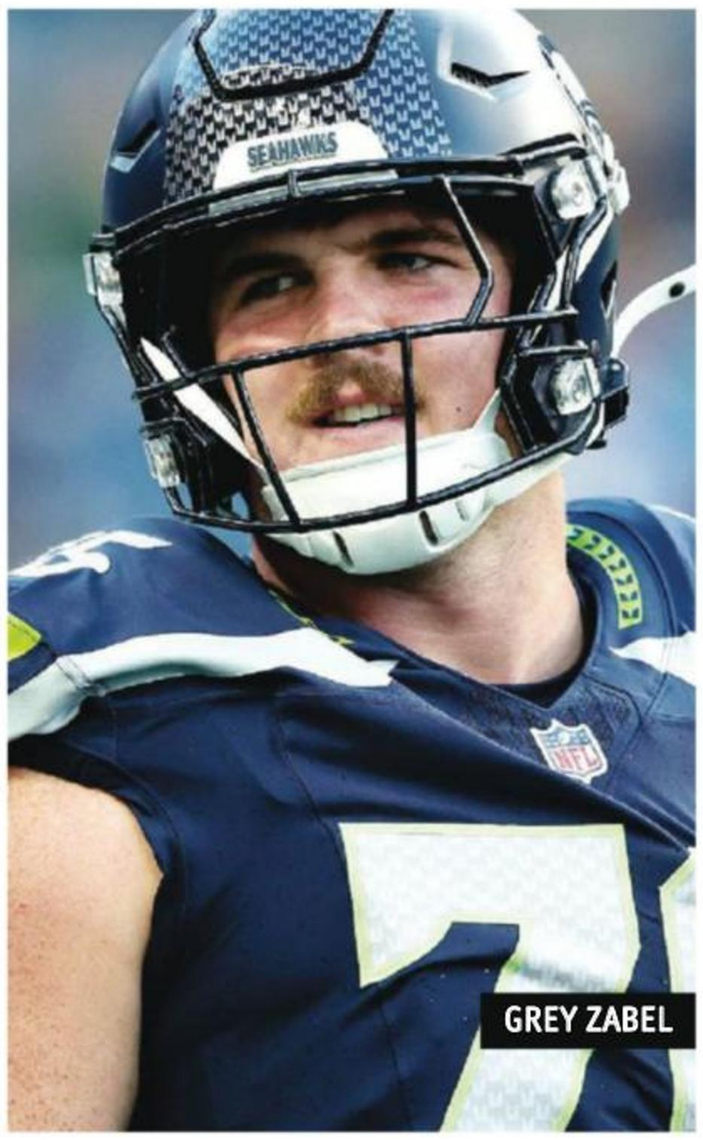
Original Pick: Kenneth Grant, IDL, Michigan
Redraft pick: Grey Zabel, IOL, North Dakota State

The Dolphins tried to address guard in the second round with Jonah Savaiinaea, but he had a rough rookie year. Zabel was excellent for the Seahawks and would've helped Miami become a tougher team in the trenches.

14. Indianapolis Colts

Original Pick: Tyler Warren, TE, Penn State
Redraft pick: Warren

The Colts should still feel good about this pick. They might have bigger needs than tight end, but when Daniel Jones was under center, it was clear how impactful Warren could be as a receiver and blocker.



15. Atlanta Falcons

Original Pick: Jalon Walker, Edge, Georgia
Redraft pick: Will Johnson, CB, Michigan

Johnson only played in 12 games last season, but he proved he was capable of becoming a lockdown cornerback in that sample size. The Falcons' original pick of Walker wasn't bad, but Johnson's value is higher.

16. Arizona Cardinals

Original Pick: Walter Nolen, IDL, Mississippi
Redraft pick: Nolen

Nolen only played six games due to injury, but his performance in those six games is enough to justify selecting him in this slot. He had two sacks and 15 pressures in that limited action, which is impressive.

17. Cincinnati Bengals

Original Pick: Shemar Stewart, Edge, Texas A&M
Redraft pick: Mason Graham, IDL, Michigan

Graham is one of our biggest fallers, but his rookie season wasn't a disaster by any means. He started to catch on toward the end of the year and improved quite a bit against the run. That fact alone makes him a good pick for the Bengals, who couldn't stop the ground game at all in 2025.

18. Seattle Seahawks

Original Pick: Grey Zabel, IOL, North Dakota State
Redraft pick: Nick Emmanwori, S, South Carolina

Emmanwori played well enough to go higher than this in a redraft, but one of the reasons he played so well is that he's such a perfect fit for coach Mike Macdonald's scheme. He makes everyone else on the Seahawks' defense so much better. For Seattle, that's worth a first-round selection, especially with Zabel already off the board.

19. Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Original Pick: Emeka Egbuka, WR, Ohio State
Redraft pick: Carson Schwesinger, LB, UCLA

There's no way the Defensive Rookie of the Year would fall outside the top 20, and the Buccaneers could use some long-term impact at linebacker. Lavonte David is getting older, and the rest of the depth chart underwhelmed in 2025. Schwesinger is a reliable run defender with plenty of speed to play in coverage.

20. Denver Broncos

Original Pick: Jahdae Barron, CB, Texas
Redraft pick: Luther Burden, WR, Missouri

The Broncos took a receiver in the third round of last year's draft, but knowing what we do about Burden now, he seems like a perfect fit for coach Sean Payton's offense. Pairing him with Courtland Sutton would give Denver a diverse and talented receivers room.

21. Pittsburgh Steelers

Original Pick: Derrick Harmon, IDL, Oregon
Redraft pick: Harmon

Harmon's rookie season flew under the radar, but one look at his on-off splits against the run shows just how valuable he was to the Steelers' defense. With no quarterback falling to this spot, it makes sense for Pittsburgh to stick with a player who already performed well in 2025.

22. Los Angeles Chargers

Original Pick: Omarion Hampton, RB, North Carolina
Redraft pick: Tyler Booker, IOL, Alabama

The Chargers' offensive line was a huge problem last season. Booker wouldn't help with the injuries sustained by Rashawn Slater and Joe Alt, but he would make the interior of the line a lot more physical in the running game and sturdy in the passing game.

23. Green Bay Packers

Original Pick: Matthew Golden, WR, Texas

Redraft pick: Josh Conerly Jr., OT, Oregon

Green Bay needs another long-term tackle option next to Jordan Morgan, and Conerly had an impressive run at the end of the season. His athletic profile makes him an incredibly high-upside option to protect quarterback Jordan Love. The Packers took Anthony Belton in the third round, so this would just be addressing tackle a little earlier.

24. Minnesota Vikings

Original Pick: Donovan Jackson, IOL, Ohio State

Redraft pick: Malaki Starks, S, Georgia

Harrison Smith can't play forever, and Starks has enough versatility to play a few different spots in Brian Flores' defense until Smith hangs up the cleats. The Georgia product improved a lot in coverage across the 2025 season, racking up two interceptions and five passes defended.

25. New York Giants

Original Pick: Jaxson Dart, QB, Mississippi

Redraft pick: Tate Ratledge, IOL, Georgia

The Giants still need to build around Dart in this redraft, so getting him some help upfront makes a ton of sense. Ratledge wasn't perfect as a rookie, but he proved to be a more than capable starter on the interior. The Giants need all the help they can get at that spot.

26. Atlanta Falcons

Original Pick: James Pearce, Edge, Tennessee

Redraft pick: Jalon Walker, Edge, Georgia

Atlanta took Walker higher in the real draft, but he ended up falling to them in this redraft. Walker did a nice job playing on the edge despite his size, holding up against the run pretty well. He also contributed 5.5 sacks on 29 pressures.

27. Baltimore Ravens

Original Pick: Malaki Starks, S, Georgia

Redraft pick: Donovan Jackson, IOL, Ohio State

With Starks off the board, the Ravens address another pain point for their roster: guard. Jackson dealt with some injuries last season, but he was a solid presence when on the field. Building a better line in front of quarterback Lamar Jackson is never a bad idea.

28. Detroit Lions

Original Pick: Tyleik Williams, IDL, Ohio State

Redraft pick: Josh Simmons, OT, Ohio State

The offensive line ended up being an issue for the Lions last year. That was mostly on the interior, but right tackle Taylor Decker also battled injuries all season. A long-term investment such as Simmons would keep the Lions' identity intact.

29. Washington Commanders

Original Pick: Josh Conerly Jr., OT, Oregon

Redraft pick: Jihaad Campbell, LB, Alabama

The Commanders desperately lacked speed and youth on defense last season. Campbell has both of those things in spades. He was a huge asset for the Eagles in coverage, which, in this scenario, would pair well with Bobby Wagner's run defense ability.

30. Buffalo Bills

Original Pick: Maxwell Hairston, CB, Kentucky

Redraft pick: Jayden Higgins, WR, Iowa State

The Bills were sorely missing a big-bodied receiver who could win on the outside last year. Higgins showed he's capable of being that player after catching 41 passes for 525 yards and five touchdowns in Houston.

31. Philadelphia Eagles

Original Pick: Jihaad Campbell, LB, Alabama

Redraft pick: Mykel Williams, Edge, Georgia

Williams has too many traits to fall outside of the first round, and the Eagles are always looking to upgrade their trenches. Philadelphia's pass rush was struggling throughout the 2025 season, prompting them to trade for Jaelan Phillips. Williams would at least provide a long-term option.

32. Kansas City Chiefs

Original Pick: Josh Simmons, OT, Ohio State

Redraft pick: Matthew Golden, WR, Texas

The Chiefs' lack of playmakers was a huge reason the offense regressed so much. Golden was quiet for most of the season, but when Green Bay gave him a chance, he produced. He's still a good route runner with a lot of upside.

TATE RATLEDGE

LOOKING AHEAD by Dante Collinelli

Who's got next in 2027?

Since our analysis of the 2026 NFL draft is ending, it's an excellent time to look ahead to next year's class. The 2027 NFL draft is expected to have some of the most high-profile players in recent memory at a few critical positions. Let's look at some of the names you'll be reading about next year.

DANTE MOORE

Arch Manning, QB, Texas

When Manning struggled at the start of the season, everyone panicked a bit. Given his bloodlines and all the hype surrounding Texas, perhaps no first-year starter was under more pressure than Arch. Well, he eventually figured it out down the stretch and looked the part of a future first-overall pick. If he keeps getting better next season, he'll be a no-brainer first QB off the board.

Dante Moore, QB, Oregon

Moore was widely expected to be in this year's class after having an impressive breakout season with the Ducks. His 3,565 yards and 30 touchdowns helped Oregon to the third round of the College Football Playoff before it ran into Indiana. Moore is a natural thrower who has shown accuracy to all three levels of the field. He's in the weird spot of trying to "maintain" his draft stock because he was expected to go top five this year and still went back to school.

Brendan Sorsby, QB, Texas Tech

Sorsby didn't have quite as much hype as Moore, but in a weak QB class, there's a chance he could've gone pretty high. Instead, he decided to leave Cincinnati after throwing for 2,800 yards, 27 touchdowns and just five interceptions. Sorsby has an excellent opportunity at Texas Tech after their CFP run — he can be the difference between an early exit and a championship. His mobility and arm talent are both incredibly appealing for NFL teams.

Ahmad Hardy, RB, Missouri

In two collegiate seasons, Hardy has already run for 3,000 yards and 29 touchdowns. He transferred from UL Monroe to Missouri ahead of last season and proceeded to dominate in the SEC just like he did in the Sun Belt. Hardy is a tough runner who can break big runs at any time. Adding a bit to his plate as a receiver in 2026

Kewan Lacy, RB, Mississippi

Lacy broke out in a big way this past season, racking up 1,567 rushing yards and a whopping 24 touchdowns. Funnily enough, Lacy started at Missouri before transferring to Mississippi ahead of the 2025 season. At 5-11, 200 pounds, Lacy has plenty of speed to rip off long runs against NFL competition.

Jeremiah Smith, WR, Ohio State

The Ohio State wide receiver factory never takes a year off, and it might've outdone itself with Smith. In two seasons, Smith already has 163 catches, 2,558 yards, and 27 touchdowns. If he continues on that trajectory, he'll get propped up as one of the best receiver prospects in recent memory, and it'll be warranted. Smith is a contested-catch monster with the speed and quickness to separate at all three levels of the field.

Ryan Williams, WR, Alabama

How about a bounce-back year? Williams burst onto the scene as a freshman two seasons ago, but just 689 yards and four touchdowns, as he never quite got into a rhythm. Williams dropped 10 passes in 2025, including three in the team's first game of the season. He's an incredible athlete with great body control and separation skills. He just needs to put it back together after a strange season.

Jamari Johnson, TE, Oregon

All season, there were grumblings about Oregon's "other" tight end. Kenyon Sadiq got the spotlight because he's a great prospect, but there's a lot to like about Johnson, too. At 6-5, 257 pounds, Johnson has the size to make an impact as a blocker and receiver. The latter of which feels like a given since he recorded 32 catches for 510 yards and three touchdowns last year. If he can step up even more with Sadiq in the NFL, he'll be hard to beat for the top tight end spot.

Trevor Goosby, OT, Texas

Goosby was another player who could've declared this year, but decided to go back to school. It was a good decision because with a strong show-

board. He experienced some growing pains as a first-year starter, but put everything together by the middle of the season. At 6-7, 312 pounds, he certainly looks the part of a future first-round pick.

Jordan Seaton, OT, LSU

You probably remember Seaton from the 2024 season because he was protecting Shedeur Sanders' blindside at Colorado. After the Buffaloes fell off in 2025, Seaton decided to transfer to LSU with Lane Kiffin. Despite Colorado's struggles, Seaton improved quite a bit, cutting down on his pressures allowed and showing why he was such a high-profile recruit. If he can continue that trajectory on a bigger stage with LSU, there's no reason to think he won't be a Day One selection.

Cayden Green, IOL, Missouri

Green will be one of the offensive linemen we have the classic "guard or tackle" debate about next season. He has one year of starting experience at left guard and, most recently, was the Tigers' starting left tackle. Regardless of where he lines up, Green's size and strength pop off the tape. He's a people mover with enough athletic ability to be a solid pass protector. When you're watching Hardy next season, remember to see if Green is paving the way.

Sheridan Wilson, C, Texas Tech

Texas Tech's defense got most of the recognition last season, but the offense has plenty of talent, too. Wilson is a two-year starter at center with excellent pass-blocking tape and good movement skills to thrive in an outside zone-heavy offense at the next level. He'll benefit from the team upgrading at quarterback with Sorsby, too.

Dylan Stewart, EDGE, South Carolina

Stewart announced his presence with a seven-sack freshman season two years ago, and he's been on NFL radars ever since. His numbers dropped off a bit in 2025, but it's easy to see the speed, power, and bend of a first-round pick on tape. He's far from a finished product, but athletic traits are at a premium for pass rushers — Stewart has those in spades.

Colin Simmons, EDGE, Texas

There is a good chance many will view Simmons as the best defensive prospect in the draft heading into next season. The Texas product has 21 sacks and six forced fumbles in his two seasons. His speed and bend make him a nightmare for offensive tackles. The question with Simmons will be about his size. He's listed at just 240 pounds, which is pretty small, even for an outside linebacker.

DYLAN STEWART

A'Mauri Washington, IDL, Oregon

Washington might've gone inside the top-50 picks had he declared this year, but he decided to run things back with a bunch of his Oregon teammates. Washington is strong, quick, and consistent against the run, giving him a nice floor to build on this season. If he can continue to develop as a pass rusher, there's a good chance for him to go higher than the top 50 next year.

David Stone, IDL, Oklahoma

Just looking at Stone's production would probably make you question why he's on this list, but his tape shows a player with a ton of potential. Despite his limited sack production (1.5), he was a disruptive pass rusher for the Sooners. He also made a bunch of impact plays against the run and really anchored his blocks well for a first-year starter against SEC competition.

Rasheem Biles, LB, Texas

Biles transferred to Texas this offseason after two strong years starting for Pittsburgh, and another year of great production in the SEC will surely draw more hype than he has right now. Last year, Biles stuffed the stat sheet with 100 total tackles, 4.5 sacks, two forced fumbles, and two interceptions. That's the type of well-rounded profile that will garner consideration inside the top-50 picks, as long as the athletic testing matches.

Whit Weeks, LB, LSU

Weeks spent most of the 2025 season battling injuries (ankle), leading to some underwhelming production across the board. Still, the 2024 All-SEC selection clearly has the skills of a future NFL linebacker. He's got enough speed to make plays sideline to sideline and in coverage, which is a must for modern players. However, he's undersized at just 225 pounds.

Leonard Moore, CB, Notre Dame

Moore is in the driver's seat to be the first cornerback and one of the first defenders off the board next year. The Notre Dame defensive back has an excellent combination of physical ability and mental processing, making him a fit in just about any defense. He also possesses impressive ball skills, producing seven interceptions and 18 pass breakups across the last two seasons. Moore is what a long-term, starting NFL cornerback looks and plays like.

Ellis Robinson IV, CB, Georgia

Georgia's recent history with defensive backs is pretty good, and Robinson might be next in line. He had a breakout 2025 season for the Bulldogs, posting four interceptions and seven pass breakups. Robinson clearly has the athletic ability to mirror and match receivers, as well as play in zone coverage. The big question will be about his size and strength. He's listed at just 6-0, 180 pounds, which is quite small for an NFL cornerback.

Koi Perich, S, Oregon

Perich is probably one of the more unique prospects in the upcoming class. He's transferring from Minnesota to Oregon after two years of solid production that also includes experience as a kick returner and running back. Perich is an excellent athlete and a legitimate option with the ball in his hands. He needs to become a more consistent coverage player and improve his tackling, but he has the size and athletic ability of a highly touted safety prospect.

K.J. Bolden, S, Georgia

Lastly, we've got another Georgia defensive back to cover. Like Malaki Starks before him, Bolden does a lot of his best work playing in deeper zones. He's got good instincts and ball skills, allowing him to make high-impact plays down the field. Bolden had two interceptions and five pass breakups in 2025, while also showing impressive tackling ability against the run. Ball production can be hard to rely on, but Bolden has proven he's got the skills to make those plays at the NFL level.

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